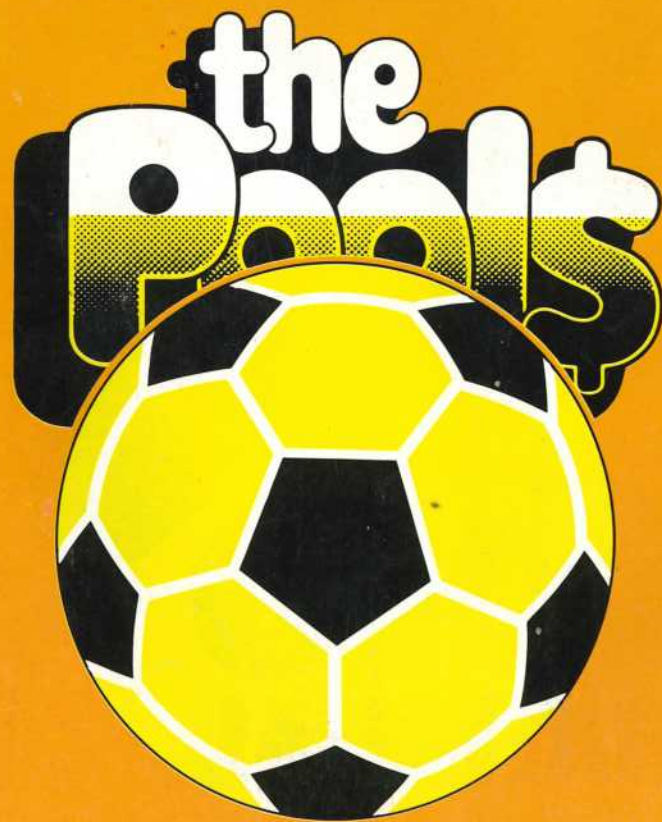


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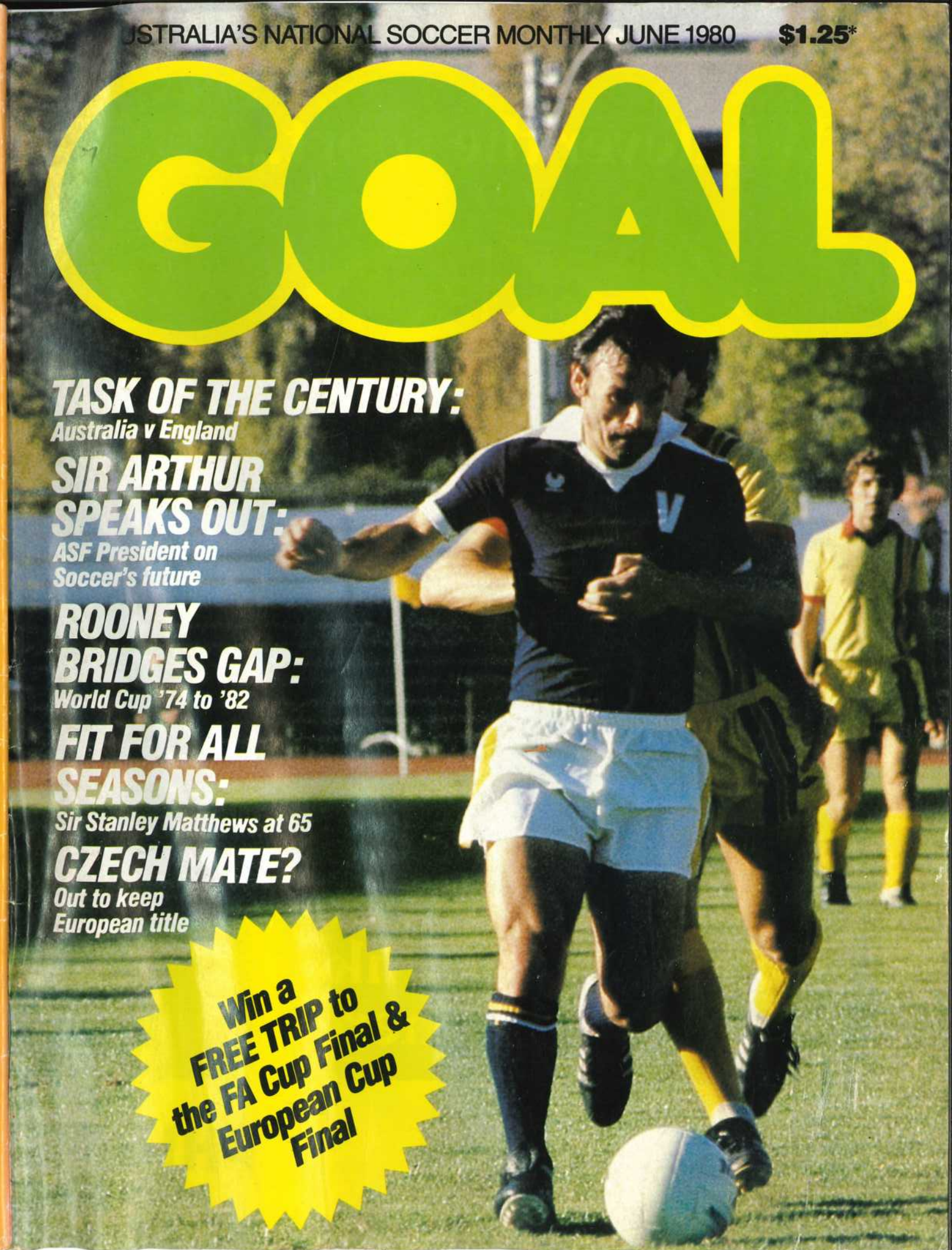
FIT FOR ALL SEASONS:

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GOAL

Australia's only national Soccer magazine

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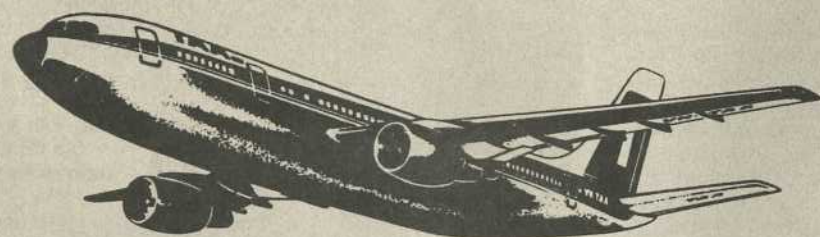
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COVER PICTURE: AUSTRALIAN CAPTAIN
JIMMY ROONEY playing for Victoria against
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It's better to fly with friends



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Five months have passed since Australian Soccer President Sir Arthur George and Patrick Nally of West-Nally outlined a sponsorship, marketing and promotion plan for Australian Soccer. Since then details have been announced of ambitious plans for the national and youth teams,

and for the staging of the World Youth Championships for the Coca-Cola Cup in Australia in October, 1981. This exclusive interview with Sir Arthur George provides answers to many of the questions and doubts of those who speculated that the plan would never go into effect.

PACKED PROGRAMME SET FOR AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

By STEPHEN BLATCHFORD

The national team is to play 22 competition matches in the next nine months in preparation for the World Cup qualifying series in Oceania and Asia which begin in April, 1981.

Starting with the Centenary match with England at the SCG on May 31, the programme includes three games against Northern Ireland in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide in the second half of June, three matches with Chile in August, 10 matches during a tour of England, the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Greece, the Middle East and Indonesia at the end of 1980, and at least two matches in February, 1981.

In addition, the Australian Soccer Federation is trying to arrange a three-match tour by Mainland China between now and October.

Sir Arthur said there would also be an intensive programme for the youth team preparing for the World Youth Championships in Australia in 1981.

"The youth squad will be settled after the national Under-19 championships," he said. "And from then on they will play curtain raisers against the Australian Colts team or the national 'B' team before every international we stage."

"They will go into training camp every time with the national squad and play practice matches against the 'A' team while they're in camp together."

Sir Arthur said arrangements had been completed for the youth squad to go overseas at the end of the year with the national squad.



SIR ARTHUR GEORGE, the tycoon, in sombre mood.

"They will go into residence at Bisham Abbey, north of London. This is one of the Football Association's coaching and training establishments, and our lads will benefit enormously from the splendid coaching staff and facilities at Bisham."

"They will play four or five competition matches while they are in England, and then move on to Bavaria or Holland, where they will play another 10 or 12 matches."

"As far as possible they will continue to train with the World Cup Squad, but the two squads won't be together all the time they're overseas," Sir Arthur said.

Efforts are being made for the youth squad to go into residence for six months at the National Sports Trust's establishment at Canberra.

"We have had an offer from Mr Bob Ellicott, who is the Federal Minister responsible for Sport, to take the youth squad into the centre for six months, and we are trying to arrange it," Sir Arthur said.

"The ASF is in touch with the Israel Soccer authorities to see if Australia can take part in an international youth tournament in January."

"Several European nations will be competing in the Israeli tournament, which would provide the Australian Youth squad with an opportunity to gauge the strength of the opposition they will come up against in October, 1981."

"We are looking for other youth tournaments for our team to compete in," Sir Arthur said. "And we're looking at the possibility of taking part in an Oceania

Youth tournament."

Sir Arthur stressed that youth was only a part of the build up for the future.

"We have got to re-organise junior Soccer, and upgrade its competitions," he said.

"We shouldn't hide the juniors' interstate championships 'in the sticks'. We should play them on a regional basis, with the finals on main grounds in the capital cities.

"In England and Europe, schoolboys draw crowds of 80-85,000."

(Editor's note: More than 70,000 people turned up in Berlin recently to see England beat West Germany 3-1 in a schoolboys' international).

"We have Australian Schoolboys' championships, Under-19 championships and Under-16 championships, but we stick them on remote grounds without proper facilities," Sir Arthur said.

"They must be upgraded so that they will attract a different audience, instead of just the mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts and grandparents who turn up to watch them now.

"The most significant thing we can do for our youth development and national team development is to have our juniors properly sponsored and promoted.

"In that way we can ensure that we have even more young players of exceptional talent coming through to senior level than we do now.

"There has been too much wastage of Australian Soccer talent in the past, and we've got to find a way to stop it.



SIR ARTHUR, Soccer superno, laughing with the lads.

Sir Arthur said he was working on a plan to have the whole junior and schools set up examined and considered by a committee which would include representatives of all the interests concerned. And that includes the seniors, who will benefit from any increase in the flow of young talent, and the juniors and schools who produce the talent," he said.

Looking to the future, Sir Arthur said the biggest problem facing Soccer in Australia was to reconcile the differences between the ASF and the Phillips League.

"I propose to set up a committee - we can do it by making the development committee operative - to pinpoint the problems and grievances.

"I propose to put that to the next meeting of the Council of Clubs and give them the chance to join the ASF in sorting out the things which divide us and in strengthening the things which unite us.

"We don't want to follow the English system where the tail too often seems to wag the dog, and where octogenarians completely out of touch with the game make decisions which effect the day-to-day business of running Soccer.

"Perhaps we should take a closer look at the West German system, where the importance of the club competition is recognised while not diminishing the priority of the national team.

"There, the clubs get \$3000 from the Federation every time one of their players is picked for the national team.

Sir Arthur said the principal problem between the ASF and the Phillips League was tours and the disbursement of the money made from tours by visiting teams.

"My solution is simple," he said. "We should let the ASF handle all tours - using the States as agents for individual matches if you like - and the ASF should disperse the profits by way of a formula to all the States and the Phillips League. "I don't know what the exact formula should be, but perhaps it could be based

on 75 per cent of the dispersible profits going to States according to the number of matches and 25 per cent according to the number of spectators.

"I don't know yet how we should work that out, but I intend to put forward some formula as a basis for discussion at least.

"And if something like this is agreed to, then 98 per cent of our problems will disappear, and we shouldn't have so much difficulty solving the other two per cent."

Sir Arthur said the sponsorship and marketing plan which he'd outlined at a media conference earlier in the year was still a live issue.

"We shall be announcing the details to the public in mid-June," he said.

"We are now working out the last stages of the detailed implementation of the plan I outlined at that media conference.

"Advertisements have appeared in the Press calling for applications for the positions of marketing director and media relations director.

"When all the details have been worked out, I shall call a national conference, and invite representatives of the sponsors, the media and the Phillips League and State Federations from all over Australia to attend it.

"It may take half a day. It may take a whole day. But we shall outline a 10-year programme for the development of Soccer.

"Then I shall go to every State and explain it in detail to the Soccer community."

Sir Arthur put his hands on the edge of the desk to indicate the interview was over, then sat back again and smiled. "You must forgive me," he said. "But I have the affairs of 11 companies to look after, as well as the Soccer business, and sometimes there doesn't seem to be quite enough hours in the day."

That's understandable.



'COKE' MAKE THINGS HAPPEN IN SOCCER

Paul Barron is a name to remember in Soccer. First, he is a goalkeeper, Arsenal's understudy to the ageless Pat Jennings, and rated among the top ten 'keepers in England even though he is almost permanently in the reserves.



PAUL BARRON

He has been coached and guided by Tony Waiters, former Blackpool and England goalkeeper now manager of North American Soccer League champions Vancouver Whitecaps, and by Bob Wilson, former Arsenal and Scotland goalkeeper now a television commentator and specialist goalkeeper coach.

Both predict a bright future for Barron - which cannot start to soon for him as he's now 25.

But famous as he's destined to become, that Paul Barron will have a relatively modest impact on world soccer compared with another Englishman of the same name who played Rugby Union as a young man and lives and works from a base in Atlanta, Ga, in the United States.

The second, and somewhat more senior Paul Barron is a back-room boy compared with the goalkeeper, seldom destined to be in the limelight, but vital to the progress and development of the game worldwide.

And he is of vital interest to Australia in the next 18 months, for he is the man behind Coca-Cola's sponsorship of the World Youth Championships to be played in Australia in October, 1981.

These will be the first ever World Youth Championships, as the two previous tournaments in 1977 in Tunisia and last year in Japan, were styled World Youth Cups.

But with the top European nations all competing in the qualifying rounds this time, FIFA has elevated the competition to the status of world championships, with the full and impressive title of FIFA World Youth Championships for the Coca-Cola Cup.

Coca-Cola has sponsored this youth tournament from its inception, and it has been master-minded by Barron from the beginning.

A Coca-Cola marketing and promotions executive for many years in England, Japan and South Africa before taking over direction of the corporation's international sports programme, Barron is now based at the corporation's world headquarters in the USA.

Such a vast programme - with Coca-Cola backing other sports including surfing - obviously needs support staff in central parts of the world.

Barron's 'man in Australia' is Peter Bent, another man who has come to Soccer in adult life and has taken to it with the enthusiasm of a fledgling Soccerer.

But Barron is the man to watch, standing quietly at the edge of gatherings, sitting watchful in a chair beside a wall at presentations, always ensuring that the limelight falls on the men on the spot - Peter Bent and the representatives of the Coca-Cola bottling companies in the case of Australia.

Mike Rowe, Bill Stokes and Col Gelling are the men who get down to the grass roots of Coca-Cola's of youth and junior Soccer, staging suburban coaching clinics all over the metropolitan areas of the large cities in the school holidays, or setting up national youth championships for the Under-16s and Under-19s.

For Barron these men are indispensable. World Youth Championships are the big brass band affairs, with symbols clashing, lights flashing and the flags flying bravely in the breeze.

They put Coca-Cola on the map in a hundred countries at a time, but it's the bottlers and the men in the regional offices who get the Coca-Cola name to the tens of thousands of small boys who play soccer for pleasure, with no hope of matching skills with Diego Maradona or Paul Allen.

Barron appreciates this as well as the next man, but he still has a mammoth task, liaising with FIFA and the national associations to whittle the 96 entrants for the World Youth Championships down to the final 15 who will play for the Coca-Cola Cup in Australia.

Then he has to market the championships in the nations who win through to the finals, and most of all he has to promote the finals in Australia.

Between now and October, 1981, he has to achieve saturation penetration of the

Australian consciousness, so that there is not a man, woman or child in this country who does not know that we are staging the biggest sporting spectacle we've had here since the Olympics in Melbourne in 1956.

In terms of television coverage and world awareness of Australia it will be far bigger than the Olympics and will make far more impact.

Soccer lovers in 186 nations will be aware that when they watch and read and hear about the young stars performing in Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra, Brisbane, Newcastle or Sydney, that they're getting a preview of some of the World Cup greats of 1982 and 1986.

To achieve maximum saturation in Australia, Coca-Cola has conceived a promotion plan staggering in its detail.

From the moment a visitor sets foot on an aircraft - destination Australia - in the months preceding the championships, he or she will be bombarded with material proclaiming Australia's hosting of the tournament.

In Australia, apart from the obvious massive television, radio and press advertising, millions of 'Coke' drinking cups will proclaim the championship message,



The Coca-Cola Cup.

millions of 'Coke' bottles will carry passports to contests for a variety of 'goodies' including season tickets to the championships!

Everywhere they go, whatever they are doing, Australians and visitors to this country will be told repeatedly that the championships are to be held here, and that for those three weeks in October, 1981, Australia will be the focal point of the world. Tee shirts, hats, posters, stickers and voices will proclaim it, and the man who directs it all is a quiet, shrewd Englishman, with three soccer playing sons back in Atlanta, Georgia, three sons who care little for Dad's boardroom celebrity in such far off places as Tunis or Tokyo.

Guy, 15, and Simon and Timothy, the 14-year-old Barron twins, who learned to play Soccer in Johannesburg, are far more concerned about the activities of Paul Barron, Soccer coach.

And as Barron talks quietly in his hotel of his family and his spasmodic life back in Georgia, his eyes get that faraway look, his voice takes on a reflective tone, and it is clear that being a junior Soccer coach in Atlanta is one of the important things for him, too.

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From The Press Box

COACH, COACH! DON'T PLAY SOCCER POLITICS

National coach Rudi Gutendorf recently used an invitation to speak to the Soccer writers of N.S.W. as an opportunity to justify actions for which he had been criticised, and to attack the Australian Soccer Federation and the promoters of the tour of Australia by the Czechoslovakian team.

Apparently Mr Gutendorf's present stance is that he must tell the Australian public the truth. They must not be deceived. He will not let them be deceived.

That, he says, is the sole reason he spoke up so boldly before the first match against the Czechs about how unready he and his players were for the series, and how little chance they had been given to prepare.

His concern for the Australian Soccer public is commendable and touching.

But if that is his real motive in roundly condemning his players and denigrating them publicly for not being match fit when they reported for national squad training, why did he not show concern before?

Why has he not kept the Australian Soccer public informed through the regular monthly media conferences which he promised when he arrived to take up his duties in September, 1978?

Mr Gutendorf has made many public statements since his arrival in this country, and has often been outspoken about shortcomings which he sees in the organisation and administration of the game in this country.

One of the subjects on which he has been most vocal is the need for more and better facilities for preparing the national team and for more frequent training camps for his squad.

This needs money, and although there is the promise of substantial backing for the national team through the major sponsorship and marketing scheme which is now being finalised, that money is not yet available.

In the meantime, the only way the Australian Soccer Federation - which is still carrying a heavy deficit from the last World Cup campaign - can raise money is by staging successful international matches in this country.

That will not be achieved by public statements that the matches ahead will be no contest because his team is not ready. Statements like that will keep spectators away, because they are not inclined to go and see the Socceroos get a beating.

And if he is determined to tell what he sees as the truth at all times, however much it hurts, then he must accept the consequences, even if those consequences are that there is not enough income from international games to maintain his national team in the manner to which he would like to be accustomed.

He simply cannot have his cake and eat it.

Mr Gutendorf has shown himself a coach capable of selecting and preparing an Australian team to play

aggressive, attacking Soccer and to make up in spirit and team-work what it may lack in individual skills compared to foreign visitors.

He has also built a national squad with an eye for the future, bleeding talented young players to make them ready for the intensive international programme ahead, and preparing them to take over as the basis of the national side as the older players fade away.

Incredibly, he has still found time to build up a fine Australian youth team - and is now embarking on the arduous task of preparing another - and to look closely at the juniors to see how he can formulate plans for the national youth team after next.

That is a daunting programme - and one which should keep him fully occupied for as long as he chooses to stay in Australia.

Whatever the criticisms of him, he has done on the Soccer field all that he has said he would do so far. He has made good every Soccer promise.

He should have taken care to ensure that the team was ready for the Czechs. He knew in July last year that they were coming in January.

He says he didn't know that there would be no club training in January. He should have known. He had his experience of circumstances here in January, 1979 to tell him.

And if he didn't know, he should have made it his business to find out.

Mr Gutendorf should stick to the business of selecting and preparing national teams - at all levels - which he is very good at, and stay away from Soccer politics.

We have more than enough Soccer politicians at all levels thank you, all grinding their own little axes.

They're ten-a-penny, and worth just about that.

There is little doubt that Mr Gutendorf's scathing criticism of his players before the first Czech match contributed considerably to the poor attendances and to the margin of defeat in the first two games.

There is equally little doubt that his personal contact with his players over the ensuing two weeks had much to do with their spirited revival which earned them an honourable draw in the third match.

Let the cobbler stick to his last.

Let Mr Gutendorf stick to his mammoth task as national coach. Let him finish the job he has begun so well.

Let us remember him when he leaves us - as leave us he will one day - with respect and affection.

And let him leave Soccer politics to those who seem more concerned with pushing their muddy little barrows than with making Soccer the premier sport in this country as it is in the rest of the world.

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McKendry makes mark

By LES SHORROCK

If National Coach Rudi Gutendorf leaves these shores after the 1982 World Cup bid is over, as he has many times said he will, who will succeed him?

More and more it seems, when the subject is discussed in Melbourne the name of Len McKendry crops up, all the more remarkably for the fact that McKendry has been the Victorian Director of Coaching for less than two years.

In that time the imperturbable Len has had a big impact on the Victorian Soccer scene, and the change has been most noticeable on the playing field coaching the State team.

There is more to McKendry's job than preparing a successful State side, but it helps, as Len himself points out.

"When you undertake to coach a team as well as to coach coaches — which is what my job is really all about — you're really putting your money where your mouth is," he says.

"Telling other coaches what to do becomes a futile exercise if you can't put your theories into practice, and I'm lucky that the boys have responded so well that it's easy to get people to listen to me now."

McKendry obviously has a flair for coaching and getting the best out of players, but he very nearly wasn't a coach at all.

Born in the London suburb of Hampstead in 1944, at the age of 15 he was signed as an apprentice by Watford, a club he says was fairly youth-orientated then.

Four years later, after spending a year with Chelsea in the Tommy Docherty era, he found himself growing disillusioned with the wastage of young talent, some clubs ridding themselves of as many as 12 young players a year.

McKendry thought to himself, "there has to be something more secure than this," and started evening classes in building management.

Qualified, he was ready to quit the game altogether when he met Malcolm Allison.

Allison, persuasive as always, convinced young Len that he could coach, so he took up coaching, qualifying for his FA Coaching licence in 1973 at Lilleshall in the West Midlands of England.

Various appointments followed, including taking charge of the England Schoolboys Southern squad in Nottingham.

In 1975 he met Brian Green.

Green was Australian national team coach and NSW Director of Coaching at the time, and he talked Len into coming to Sydney under the Rothmans Sports Foundation scheme, and Len spent two years as coach of Marrickville.

During that time Brian Green resigned as national coach and left Australia to be succeeded by the ACT Director, Jimmy Shoulder.

When Shoulder, in turn, left after our failure to qualify for Argentina, McKendry reflects, "All the qualified coaches started speculating who would get the job. There was Rale (Rasic), Alan Vest! ... a pause ... Me".

"Anyway in the end, I was staggered by the choice of Rudi Gutendorf.

"I thought there were plenty of us in the country with local knowledge would do the job as well and could have got on with it without having to learn all about the local set-up first.

"At about the same time I was offered the chance of being on the short list for the Victorian job, thought it the next best thing to the national job, came for the interview and got it."

The McKendry reign had begun, but it wasn't roses all the way.

"There was a lot of opposition to me here at first," says the forthright Londoner.

"The bloke I beat for the job, Freddie Bunce, is a nice fellow, very popular, and a lot of people thought he should have got the nod because of his local knowledge.

"Then through the Secretary of the Victorian Coaches' Federation, Ken Lyon, who was with Prahran Slavia, I started taking some Slavia players through to their preliminary coaching badges, and other club officials didn't like that either.

"It wasn't a very auspicious start, and when I started picking my State squad, there was more criticism.

"Three of the players I picked — John Yzendoorn, Jamie Paton and Steve Short were Slavia players then, and I was accused of favouritism towards players who had taken my coaching course.



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"The criticism looked silly when Heidelberg grabbed Yzendoorn and Paton, who have since proved their worth in the Philips League, and Steve Short's leadership qualities were recognised when his new club, Essendon, made him captain.

"Also I was criticised when I left out Alun Evans, Stewart Baxter and George Campbell.

"This time they said it was anti-South Melbourne bias, but I had agreed with the VSF to use only players who would be eligible for the national team, which excludes Alun Evans, who has already been capped for England at both Youth and Under-23 level.

"Anyway, I always regarded Steve Kokoska as a better centre-back than Baxter.

"Originally we understood that Jim Campbell, through his England Youth Cap would also be ineligible, but that isn't so and he's in.

"I feel our policy has been fully vindicated, especially when you consider that of the recent Australian squad that drew 2-2 here in Melbourne with Czechoslovakia, eight were Victorians.

"Even that didn't satisfy me, because I think there is no better goalkeeper in the country than Yakka Banovic, and Steve Kokoska deserves his chance too.

"It's a far cry from the Gutendorf statement last year that his Australian team would be drawn mainly from Marconi and Sydney City, isn't it?

It is an open secret that there has been no great rapport between the national coach and the most successful State coach.

"That's Soccer politics," says McKendry, "and I don't want to be embroiled in politics."

Then he adds with a faint grin, "All of a sudden though, Victorian players are popular up there (Sydney), and he's (Gutendorf) picking my brains now... it's how does this one play? and how good is that one?"

Victorians had grown accustomed to seeing their State select thrashed by visiting teams. When McKendry took over. It seemed inevitable, and in the 1970s before McKendry, Victoria had played 26 games against overseas teams for a mere three wins — over a Welsh FA team, Bristol Rovers and Dundee (who had a man sent off).

McKendry changed all that, with the help of a co-operative administration, picking a squad of 18 players, making sure they trained every week of the year, coaching them, cajoling them, hectoring them, but above all, instilling pride in them.

And although he lost his first game, against Wisla Cracow of Poland by only 2-1, the portents were good.

Gradually the squad came to look more like a team and less like a group of individuals, as most representative teams do.

In fact as they donned the blue and gold, they started to look cocky as they took the field, instead of apprehensive.



Len McKendry (Back row, centre) with eight players of his Victorian State team who were in Gutendorf's national squad against Czechoslovakia or AC Milan. Back row, left to right, George Christopoulos, Yakka Banovic, Gary Cole, Jimmy Tansey. Front row, left to right, Jimmy Campbell, John Ysendoorn, Tommy Cumming, Jimmy Rooney.

The Norwich City game proved the turning point, with the Victorians looking as good as the visitors until their condition gave out and they lost in the last ten minutes, 4-2.

Then came wins over Partizan of Belgrade, AEK of Athens and the mighty Red Star of Belgrade, followed by a tremendous performance against New York Cosmos, when Victoria equalised twice, only to go down in the last minutes of the game when Johan Neeskens scored a freak goal.

McKendry doesn't like to be thought of only as a textbook coach. Ask him if you can take a photograph of him with a clipboard or coaching manual in hand and he waves you away impatiently.

"I don't do it out of a book," he says. "It's up here," tapping the forehead, "and if you can't go out there and show them, it's no use."

All the same, he believes that coaches need to be taught, they aren't born. "What about the great players?" you ask tentatively, "some of them made good managers of clubs, didn't they?"

"Only some of them," says Len, "take the two Charltons. One of them, Bobby, was a hopeless manager. He nearly ruined young Yzendoorn's career when he was at Preston, but Jackie, he's a good manager who'll get Sheffield Wednesday promoted, and he's an FA Staff coach, and there's the difference".

When McKendry first arrived in Melbourne, it was suggested to him that perhaps it would be best if he didn't take direct responsibility for the State team. "They always lose, and it might be bad for your image, was how they put it to me," he muses.

"But I told them, I've got to build, pyramid-like, from the mass of juniors at

the bottom, right up to the top of the pyramid, and in the State that's the State team, so I must be responsible".

So, no matter how busy his week is, you'll always find him at Olympic Park on Wednesday night, training "my boys".

His week starts with watching two or three Philips and State League matches on Saturdays and Sundays.

On Mondays he talks to the Press, does his office work and plans his week, until evening, when he takes a coaching session with a club that has called for specialised help.

Tuesdays and Thursdays are spent at the different State Teachers' Training Colleges, lecturing PE teachers on acquiring skills and demonstrating them.

Wednesdays are devoted to the paperwork and planning for the different State squads.

On Fridays he does more PR work, speaking at functions, making presentations and the like.

That's what he calls his quiet period.

In addition, from October to February, he spends every Saturday and Sunday at different regional centres, organising and supervising preliminary badge coaching courses, everywhere from Warrnambool in the West to the Latrobe Valley in the East, to Albury in the North.

And all the time he talks non-stop — about Soccer of course.

I was worn out after a mere two days with him, but he seems tireless, working something like a 70-hour week, every week.

"But I'm lucky," he says, "when you're doing something you enjoy as much as I enjoy coaching, you can't call it work".

It could be Bill Shankly speaking, couldn't it?

LIVING LEGEND FITS HIMSELF FOR THE '60s

BRUCE WADDELL, Soccer writer of the Brisbane Courier-Mail, gives his impressions of Sir Stanley Matthews.



Sir Stanley Matthews

There's a certain regal aura about Sir Stanley Matthews, the like of which may not be experienced again, most certainly not in this century.

Sir Stanley recently graced the State of Queensland for four weeks, doing the rounds of coaching children, making guest appearances and generally meeting the people.

He was brought to Australia by two enterprising Brisbane businessmen, Billy Webb and Chris Worrell, who call themselves Soccer World.

Initially Sir Stanley's trip was to be confined solely to Queensland, but the man is still such a legend, it was not long before approaches were made to have him visit Sydney, Canberra and Bowral.

There were some who dared to suggest that the current generation may not have given two hoots about a 65-year-old man, who now lives the peaceful life in Malta, and who, after all, had given the game away some 15 years ago at the tender age of 50.

How wrong they were!

I first had the pleasure of meeting Sir Stanley at Brisbane airport and saw him on another three occasions during his visit.

On each occasion he was continually

approached by well-wishers, some of whom discovered how willing he was to have a chat.

Others simply wanted to shake his hand.

These same people in the past have seen Soccer personalities in the flesh — men like Bobby Charlton, George Best, Dennis Law, Charlie George, Ray Clemence — all of whom visited this country as current superstars of the game.

But none of them attracted the same reverence, and at times awe, that the deeply modest Sir Stanley engenders.

The only time he looked a little ill at ease was immediately on his arrival, when the usual brigade of television interviewers bombarded him with the same diatribe about:

"What do you think of the crowd violence in England?" or "Do you think transfer fees are getting out of hand in the UK?"

After weathering that introduction, Sir Stanley made it known he would much prefer to talk about children or more importantly, children in Soccer.

He has made several trips to South Africa and the United States, where he

has been able to indulge in his favourite pastime and adds a warning that America will be a potent force on the international scene in the near future, such is the progress being made there in junior development.

Most of us have read many times over about Sir Stanley's feats for England, Blackpool and Stoke City.

They are etched indelibly into the game's history.

What his admirers most wanted to hear in Brisbane was anecdotes such a lasting career was bound to produce.

The ideal opportunity for this came when Sir Stanley was guest speaker at a businessmen's dinner organised by State League club, Grange Thistle.

Sir Stanley spoke of his formative years, when he was motivated towards maintaining absolute fitness at all times by his boxer father, George.

It was that early guidance which set him on a course of total abstinence from alcohol and tobacco, controlled food intake and the need to practice daily breathing exercises first. He never starts the day now without doing those breathing exercises first.

The taut frame, topped these days by snow white hair, and which looks as if it has never carried an ounce of excess fat in those 65 years, is the perfect example of a body that has been looked after.

It is that supreme fitness which never gave Sir Stanley any cause to doubt that he could continue playing well past the age most men retire.

"In fact," he says, "I retired too early at 50. I felt I could have gone on for another three years at least."

"But the one thing I find missing now is balance. Even when I was 50 I could take a knock from the fullback, but recover in a split second to carry on with the ball down the wing.

"But if I was playing football now, I could not recover quickly enough after taking a knock.

"That is the difference."

Sir Stanley told the Thistle audience about his love of racehorses and recalled that he was once part-owner of a galloper the name of which escapes me now, and which was to run one Saturday while he

was playing for Stoke in the last match of the season at Newcastle.

Both sides were safe in the middle of the table and players from both teams backed the horse.

Sir Stanley spent most of the first half closer to the sideline than usual trying to pick up the result from the bench.

He was finally informed by a voice in the crowd, which called: "Hey, Stan! So and so's won at 3/1", and he maintains that within minutes with the game still in progress, the word had spread to all 22 players on the pitch.

But the story we liked best concerned a match Sir Stan was to play in just after the war, when he guested for Arsenal against Moscow Dynamo, one very foggy night at Highbury.

Although an English referee would have postponed the game, with visibility down to 10 yards, the Russian referee ruled that the match should proceed.

Inside right that night was Stan Mortensen, who became increasingly agitated at the Russian goalkeeper's habit of falling on the ball and delaying the game.

"I swear I'm going to kick him if he keeps it up," Mortensen said to Sir Stanley at halftime.

Sure enough, the 'keeper kept up his annoying habit and Mortensen had a good whack at the Russian, upon which he was dismissed from the field.

With order restored, Sir Stanley

thought: "Well I'd better move over into the inside right position now he's gone."

With that, Sir Stanley heard a voice say: "Psst! Stan, get back onto the wing, I'm still here."

Sir Stanley later offered a particular piece of important advice to us all, when he was asked whether seven was too young an age for kids to start playing Soccer. "Not at all. But by all means let them do their own thing but keep the parents in the background."

Wise words from probably the only Soccer legend most of us will see in our lifetime. It has been an honour to have him here.



Left: At last, in 1953 Stanley Matthews got the F.A. Cup winners medal he'd been denied for so long. Blackpool, prompted by Matthews, edged home 4-3 in the dying minutes of the game after being 3-1 down early in the second half.

TOP: Sir Stanley signing autographs in Brisbane.

ABOVE: Sir Stanley with his wife, Mila, at Brisbane Airport.



THE MAGIC OF MATTHEWS

By PETER CONNELL

Talking is something Sir Stanley Matthews does sparingly, but always to good effect.

In his playing days he was not much of a talker, preferring to save his breath for the purpose of beating the full-back.

Today, he doesn't talk all that much to the thousands of juniors and schoolboys he coaches in South Africa, Canada, the United States, his home island of Malta, and now Australia.

He still prefers to talk with those eloquent feet, shuffling up to his opponent, real or imagined until he is ready to move from dead slow to top gear in a stride, ghosting past the fullback as if he isn't there.

Often he isn't there, having been sent yards the wrong way by that incredible now-you-see-it-now-you-don't shuffle of feet and ball or that sleight of hips body swerve.

Demonstration is the essence of the Matthews magic with kids, demonstration punctuated with a few pertinent words to drive home a point he is making with feet, body or ball.

Thousands of boys in Australia have enjoyed the benefit of this method now, more than half of them without really knowing or understanding who he really was.

Some knew, of course, the Soccer freaks, the aficionados who read everything about the game they can lay their hands on.

More of them went to see the famous man out of curiosity or because Dad remembered.

Whatever the reason for their going, they stayed to look and listen, and were enchanted.

They were bewitched, not as the children of Hamelin were by a man in pat chwork clothes playing haunting, lively music on his pipe, but by a shuffling, dancing man in white shorts and tracksuit top, white beanie on his head, who played magical tunes with his feet on a Soccer ball.

Children in Brisbane, the Gold Coast, the Sunshine Coast, in Sydney suburbs, Canberra and the N.S.W. Southern Highlands all came under the spell of the maestro and will remember him for the rest of their lives.

Off the field, the potion was as potent. At dinner in coaching camps and hotel

dining rooms after the day's work was done, Sir Stanley and his stunningly gracious Czechoslovakian wife, Mila, slowly relaxed, saying little as they sipped a glass of wine - never more than one, because Matthews has only a fleeting acquaintance with alcohol.

"All my life I've avoided alcohol and tobacco," he says. A roguish twinkle comes into his eye. "Two out of three isn't bad, is it?" he asks, innocent-seeming.

Slowly Sir Stanley blossoms. Among the coaches around the table, two played for Arsenal - Gordon Nutt and Roy Pack - Andy Clues was with Swindon, Ulrich Kintscher played amateur Soccer in Germany and Rale Rasic . . . well, as player and coach his reputation needs no enhancing.

The talk, inevitably, is of Soccer giants of the past.

Matthews refuses to be drawn into comparisons between, say, his old Blackpool teammate Stan Mortenson and current England skipper Kevin Keegan.

But he gathers momentum as he recalls

Mortenson and Mannion, Hapgood and Hagan, Docherty and Duncan, Finney and Froggatt, Carter and Crayston, Lawton, Milburn, Mudie, Perry, and the much underrated Frank Soo.

The anecdotes spill out, the riper ones omitted out of deference to Mila.

The managers, too, are remembered, and the trainers.

They're called coaches today, but Soccer was more spontaneous and more instinctive then.

There was no need to tell men like Matthews and Finney how to play. They knew, by natural selection and constant practice as kids.

Someone remembered Jack Smith, a rugged forceful player with Bolton Wanderers, who had become manager of Blackpool when the team was bulging with skill of Matthews, Mortenson, Mudie, Perry, Armfield and Harry Johnston.

Jack Smith's pre-match talk to this abundance, almost a surfeit, of Soccer skill and artistry as they prepared to a crucial FA Cup semi-final against Spurs at Villa Park was: "Get stuck in lads."

Dinner over, the party moved into the

lounge-room, and broke up into smaller groups.

Matthews made his way to the billiards room for a game of snooker with the hotel manager.

"I'll not be long," he said. "I want to get to bed early. We've got an early start in the morning."

An early start indeed, with a two-hour car trip to another camp at Dural, then on to the airport for yet another plane to somewhere.

At the other end there'd be another thousand starry-eyed boys to be put under the spell for a couple of hours they'd remember for the rest of their lives.

He'd been in Australia less than three weeks, yet he'd taken part in upwards of 40 coaching clinics, enthralled thousands at shopping centre promotions, and held hard-nosed, cynical, seen-it-all coaches, journalists and businessmen captive with his talk, his dry wit and his quiet good humour.

A legend had come and gone.

Soccer would never be quite the same again.



He shall give autographs wherever he goes - but the accent is still on the soccer ball. "Always let the lads work with a ball," Sir Stanley says.

BOOK REVIEW

COACHING SIMPLIFIED FOR FOND FATHERS

Coaching books proliferate in Soccer, particularly in Australia, where many good books are imported and local authors try to cash in on the boom in junior Soccer.

The trouble with most of these books is that they are right above the heads of most of the coaches the juniors have to put up with while they're learning the game.

Most of the coaches with qualifications want to coach seniors in the professional and semi-professional leagues.

The boys have to put up with eager fathers, brought up on Rugby League, Rugby Union, Aussie Rules and other bizarre forms of handball thuggery.

Taught from an early age that winning, by any means, is all that matters in sport, these fathers read about complex systems and strategies, often of dubious merit even at national level, and try to impose them on young boys who do not even know how to kick, head or control a ball effectively.

At last we have someone who is prepared to treat the subject at the level it's going to be applied.

Ron Tindall, Western Australia's Director of Soccer Coaching, has written a

handbook called 'Improve your Soccer'.

Mr. Tindall brings rare qualifications to his job and to the self-imposed task of authorship.

He served his Soccer apprenticeship with Chelsea, where he played more than 170 games in the first team as a striker before moving to West Ham where he came under the direct influence of Ron Greenwood, now England team manager.

After two years with West Ham, Tindall moved to Reading and then in 1966 to Portsmouth.

In 1968 he became player-coach and moved up progressively with the club team to manager in 1970 and general manager in 1973.

He arrived in Perth on January 2, 1977 to take up his present post.

During his Soccer career he played in more than 350 Football League matches, represented the Football League v the League of Ireland, played for England Under-23's against Bulgaria and for London combined team against Holland.

He qualified as a F.A. coach at Lilleshall in Shropshire in 1962, soon after coming into contact with Greenwood, and has since obtained a diploma of Soccer club management studies from

Loughborough University.

His book is short, simple and very easy to read and understand.

Mr. Tindall has set out to provide coaches with a series of exercises aimed solely at improving players' skills in the basic elements of the game.

In clear, straightforward language, using easy to understand pictures and diagrams, he explains how to kick, head and receive a ball, and outlines a series of practises designed to teach young players how to put the techniques into operation in conditions bearing some relationship to those they'll meet in match play - putting them under pressure and on the move.

No fond father should be without this book, particularly if he has been roped in to help the Under 7s or Under 10s to learn a game which is alien to his experience and knowledge.

The book is unassuming and unpretentious, but it has been thought good enough to attract forewords by Ron Greenwood and Australia's National Director of Coaching, Eric Worthington.

The book is sponsored by Shell and will be available through Soccer Federations in each State.

ROONEY REVS 'ROOS

BY LES SHORROCK

The World Cup in Spain in 1982 will be Jimmy Rooney's soccer swan song.

Rooney, captain of Australia, coach of Heidelberg United and sole survivor of our 1974 World Cup squad, is determined to end his playing career in a blaze of glory.

"Then I want to get into coaching, first with juniors and then on into seniors," he says.

Rooney, is coaching Heidelberg jointly with captain Paddy Bannon, an interim measure that was forced on the club with the sudden departure of Manny Poulakakis at the start of the season.

Modestly, Jimmy doesn't take the credit for Heidelberg's prominence though; "It's been coming for some time," he says. "We're the best organised team in the League and having so many Victorian State players in the squad means that we understand each other better. We owe a lot to State coach Len McKendry in that respect."

Heidelberg owes a lot to McKendry in other respects, too, for despite his 70-hour working week, he takes time out two nights a week to supervise and advise on Heidelberg's training programme — in his own time, and for nothing.

For a man of his vast experience in the game, Rooney is surprisingly quiet, almost diffident, but there is no denying that he thinks deeply about the game.

He has played under many coaches, both at club and national level, but when you ask him who was best, the reply comes without hesitation . . . "Jimmy Shoulder! He opened my eyes to what Soccer was all about," says Rooney.

"It's a pity he had to go like he did. He would still have been very good for us."

Who else has impressed him? "Well, Rale (Rasic), of course and Len (McKendry)."

It is a commonly heard cry these days that the game in Australia was better 20 years ago, when, in Melbourne, for instance, with immigration at its peak, the State League was of a much higher standard than it is now and contained teams like the great Croatia, Polonia and Juventus.

But if you put that point of view to Rooney, suggesting that the game is not improving here, he will disagree with you vigorously. "That's nonsense. The Philips League has made a great difference. Now you have good players spread right through the country.

"Instead of them playing in isolation in their own State leagues, they are playing against each other. From Adelaide through to Brisbane, good Soccer is being played.

"It's an inspiration to youngsters who want to take up the game. A little hero-worship doesn't go amiss when you're a kid."

Rooney ought to know. He did enough hero-worshipping of Scottish First Division players back in his native Dundee when he was a wee lad and it's done him no harm.

It's on the subject of junior soccer that Rooney waxes most eloquent.

Like most experienced coaches and critics, he deplores the tremendous wastage of boys who never make the transition from junior to senior level.

And equally, he appreciates that a big factor is the sad lack of coaches at junior level.

But he is scathing about the attitude of a lot of parents too.

"Too many of them are only interested in their boy's immediate success in a team, and misguidedly they encourage him to think that winning trophies is all-important.

"Little do they realise that if they took the kid to the local park and encouraged him to practise ball control instead, they would be doing him a bigger service.

"Some parents in junior clubs are unreal."

"I've been to plenty of presentations where people didn't know me, didn't know who the State coach was, and never went to see a Philips League match, or a Victorian game, or any other form of Soccer outside their own Under-whatever age group their own kid was playing in.

"Once they've bought the boy his boots and gear, and have taken him to his weekly game, they sit back and leave it all to some well-meaning coach to produce a senior player.

"But I still think the game is making progress, and the most important aspect of the work of State coaches like Len McKendry is in producing coaches at preliminary level, who can impart ball skills to kids."

Evergreen Rooney, born in December, 1946, in bonny Dundee, came to Australia in April, 1968, "just to see what it was like," and liked it.

He led a mini-invasion of Dundonians, "The Weavers", best known among them Essendon's coach John Gardiner, and they still form an enclave in Melbourne.

Indirectly, the Dundee colony led to his marriage to Linda. He met her in Melbourne on a flying visit from Sydney where he was playing, and who herself comes from Dundee, although they never met in Scotland.

Rooney who had played for Montrose in Scotland and Peterborough in the English First Division, first played for USC Lions, the Ukrainian-backed State League team later amalgamated to become Essendon.

In 1970 he joined Sydney's Prague, and two seasons later went on to Apia, where he spent five glorious years, while Apia won everything that was going.

Marconi snapped him up for the start of the Philips League and he was a major force in their team for two seasons, before he came "home" to Melbourne.

"I had toyed with the idea for some time before I made the move," he says. "Linda's family live here, and for us it spells home."

Jimmy, who had managed an office for a ceramic tile firm in Sydney, has been a full-time Soccer professional since he's been back in Melbourne.

He thinks that other clubs should make it possible for their senior players to work full time at the game, through sponsorship if necessary.

Small though he is, Rooney has managed to escape serious for most of his Soccer career.

He missed an overseas tour in 1970 through a calf muscle injury and he now takes all precautions he can to avoid injuries, or the worst effects of them.

This doesn't mean shirking tackles or his fair share of the work load on the field.

On the contrary, he carries an enormous work load and covers vast amounts of ground during any match, his short legs going like pistons as he contrives to keep pace with longer legged team-mates and opponents.

His formula for reducing the number and effects of injuries is to keep himself fit.

This calls for stringent self-discipline and self-sacrifice.

"I like a beer or two after a



JIMMY ROONEY with baby Rebecca a few days after she was born.

Generous Malaysians



Tribal people of Sarawak invite visitors to a festive dance.

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of giving. Often with gold.
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ROONEY exchanging pennants with Czechoslovakian captain, Anton Ondrus before the match in Sydney. Tony Boskovic is the referee.

game," Rooney says. "But if you have too much, you pay for it. You have to work so much harder to make up for it that usually it isn't worth it."

Another Rooney measure is a comprehensive warm-up before the game.

He does this in two stages—before the team leaves the dressing room for a pre-match kick-about, and again on the field just before kick-off.

In this way he stretches his muscles and gets the blood pumping oxygen through his system, so that by the kick-off he is already in match condition.

It was no accident that Rooney was the only Australian who matched the opposition for fitness in the first two internationals during the tour of Czechoslovakia in January and February.

While other players were hopping off to Europe or the Pacific Islands for

holidays, or enjoying club tours in Asia, Rooney was putting himself through a self-imposed regime that had him totally ready for the 10-month seasons of club and international matches planned for Australia's Centenary Soccer year.

As Australia's captain, Rooney does not rely on exhortation to get extra effort and application out of his team on by his own bubbling enthusiasm.

"I've never given a thought to quitting, even when results have been disappointing," a clear reference to the two heavy defeats by Czechoslovakia. "I love the game, and that makes it easy for me to keep going."

"It's like a new lease of life to me, being back in the Australian team again," he says. "When I left Marconi, I thought I was finished as a national player, but the Victorian team and Len McKendry has

changed all that."

Although he is rising 34, Rooney plays and trains with an enthusiasm that puts some 19-year-olds to shame, and next year he could barring accidents become Australia's most capped player.

In all national games, only Peter Wilson with 115 has played more times than Rooney, and his 49 full international caps are only surpassed by Wilson's 62 and Abonyi's 58.

When you listen to Jimmy Rooney talking like this, you realise that even if Spain 1982 spells the end of a great playing career, it could also signal the beginning of another one, that of Jimmy Rooney, coach.

Who knows, in 10 years time, this profile of Jimmy Rooney, Australia's leading player, might have to be re-written about Jimmy Rooney, leading coach?

FIVE JUST MEN PLAN SOUTH AUST. FUTURE

By TOM McKAIN

Five men may hold the answer to South Australia's soccer future in their bulging files.

They are members of the newly formed technical committee, appointed by the SA Soccer Federation board to provide a new master blueprint, along with smaller ones when needed, to lift the State's Soccer, particularly the local leagues, out of the rut they've ploughed since the formation of the Philips League.

The five — SA Federation chairman Wally Tkachuk, State director of coaching Mike Wells, board member Barry Hughes, SA Junior Association secretary Ron Roberts, and former SA Federation president Alex Hastings — have already spoken to players, coaches, officials, fans and members of the media.

They are expected to put forward major proposals for the 1981 season, but also to suggest immediate changes and improvements, for the current season.

State games this year, and the Ampol Cup summer series next season, are expected to be given top priority.

The 1980 Ampol Cup, involving only eight clubs from last year's First Division, was a financial flop, with attendances really low.

Already there is an assurance of bigger gates with the Philips League clubs. Adelaide City and West Adelaide pledged to return to the series.

The State team also got a lift when these clubs released their players for State teams after hassles earlier in the season, and SA pulled off a 0-0 draw with Victoria in Melbourne.

Suggestions have been made to members of the committee that the Ampol Cup format be revamped to include a State Squad, and it is certain the State Under-19 squad will be included as a lead-up to the 1981 World Youth Championship to be played in Australia for the Coca-Cola Cup.

Mr Hastings — captain of Sunderland for 10 years, former Scottish international



Alex Hastings (Right), former president of the South Australian Soccer Federation, and former Scottish international midfielder, who captained Sunderland for 10 years, with

another Sunderland captain and midfielder Bobby Moncur during Sunderland's 1977 tour of Australia.

then manager of Scottish League club, Kilmarnock — agrees something must be done for the summer series.

"The public wants to see something different, and we've certainly had some interesting suggestions put to us, but how many of them will be accepted, or can be implemented, remains to be seen," he said.

Another idea put forward has been to include the State Amateur League squad in the Ampol Cup.

The Sunday Amateur League is now a massive operation, and if only half the league's players watched the Ampol Cup, the turnstiles would be jammed.

A reduction from two nights — Mondays and Fridays — to one, and rock-bottom admission prices, have also been mooted.

Some suggestions have a touch of fantasy — no off sides — interchange of players anytime and no limit on the number of substitutes, plus a player from one of the women's teams in each side.

One doubts if the rules will be altered, but it does appear fans will have a new-look competition which will be more than a dress rehearsal for the winter season.

But what major changes the committee will come up with for the 1981 winter is anyone's guess.

**"The public
wants to see
something
different!"**

Crowds at local games have sunk since the Philips League came into being, and the standard of play does not appear to be lifting.

Even worse, the majority of fans and officials appear to be interested only in their own teams.

On the Ampol Cup final night one of the clubs which had played in the contest organised a tournament at its own ground.

The "big match" to open the State League season — last year's champions against the Federation Cup winners — for the inaugural Charity Shield, pulled in under 1000 spectators on a delightful Saturday afternoon.

The match featured Beograd, who won the league title last year and the Ampol Cup this year, against Port Adelaide, Federation Cup winners in 1979, and promoted this year after winning the Second Division Championship.

Perhaps the number of overseas teams on tour, and the World Youth Championship, plus Australia's World Cup qualifying matches, will rescue SA.

But the "Five Wise Men" had better have some goodies to offer after the excitement of the tours and Socceroos dies down.

Wee man, big defender



What happens if your kingsize speedy, overlapping, strong tackling full-back is ruled out for at least eight weeks with knee ligament trouble on the eve of the season's kick off?

You take a pint-sized winger from the three previous seasons and stick him in the giant's place and come up with another winner.

At least that's what West Adelaide's new manager Gerry Chaldi did when 182cm Barry Reynolds, 30, hobbled off at training.

After a couple of games with a trial back four, Chaldi put 23-years-old Ian McGregor (165cm) at right back and the little Scot has done nothing but look forward since.

Since the start of the Philips League he was recognised as a ball-playing winger who could turn any defence inside out — unless he had an off day.

And there were times last season when he had too many of those.

They might have continued but for Reynolds' injury, because Chaldi, as he tried to find the right permutation with his new team, was convinced McGregor was

not right for his attack.

McGregor was given a run in the midfield, but didn't go much better.

Then came the move to defence and scintillating performances.

So consistent was McGregor, and so cool under pressure, that when Chaldi felt the attack needed a lift, he decided to switch him back into the forward line.

But the day before the game he asked Chaldi to leave him where he was.

"Sometimes you have to let a player be the judge," said Chaldi, when explaining why he had changed his mind after announcing the line-up and the role McGregor was to play.

"The boy said he was just beginning to get his confidence back, he was very happy where he was, and would I please leave him in the defence.

"I did, and we've got ourselves a very good full-back."

But what happens when "Big Bazz" gets the plaster off his knee and is declared fit to play again?

In his day the big fellow has played striker, midfield and centre back.

Somehow there will be room for the big man and the wee man.

"They're playing our song."



7
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C326

FASHANU TO GUEST FOR ADELAIDE CITY.

Justin Fashanu is to play for Adelaide City in the Phillips League this season.

The big, dark striker from Norwich City will play six to eight matches as a guest star.

He will come on to Australia from Norwich's off-season tour of Asia.

Fashanu made a big impression in Australia when he was here last year on Norwich City's tour.

Over the past two years he has teamed as a twin striker with Kevin Reeves to make Norwich's attack one of the most feared in the English First Division.

Fashanu struggled for a while after Reeves was transferred to Manchester City midway through the season for \$2 million.

He earned the wrath of Norwich manager John Bond by trying too hard to make up the absence of Reeves.

Lacking experience, he turned enthusiasm into over-exuberance, and soon got into trouble with English referees for rough play.

But strong talk by Bond and application by Fashanu brought a solution, with the striker still harrassing opposing defences, but avoiding the censure of referees.

Fashanu has never found his life soft or easy.

Born in Hackney in the East End of London of a Nigerian father, at the age of four, he and his brother John became Barnado boys after their parents split up.

They were lucky when Barnado's found them a good foster-home together in the Norfolk village of Shropham.

At Attleborough Secondary-Modern school he spent more time playing Soccer than on his studies.

He was a pretty useful boxer, reaching the junior heavyweight finals of the English Schools and Junior ABA championships, but Soccer was always his first sporting love.

He played for Norfolk County Schoolboys and then for non-League Thetford Town as a right winger.

At 16 he joined Norwich City as an apprentice. He has two England Youth international caps and played for the England 'B' team against the touring New Zealand national side last year.

His idols are Reeves, Garry Birtles of Nottingham Forest and Cyrille Regis of West Bromwich Albion, although his style is more like Joe Jordan's — rugged, brave and determined.

Like Jordan with Leeds and Manchester United, Fashanu shows a surprising degree of close ball skill for a big man—182 cm tall.

Now Fashanu has imposed a personal extra training regime on himself, to quicken up so that he can get away from defenders as soon as he's played the ball, instead of hanging around and getting into trouble with opponents and referees alike.

He gets to the Carrow Road ground early each morning and goes for a three-mile run, and stays late each afternoon after regular training to work with weights.

For Fashanu, the stint with Adelaide City is an ideal opportunity to keep himself fit and match-sharp for the 1980-81 English season.

Which means that defenders in the Phillips League will be well advised to keep an alert eye on the young man from Carrow Road, for he has no intention of drawing back or shirking a tackle.

In any challenge for the ball he aims to give himself more than a even chance by going in just a bit harder.

In that way he often wins the ball when the odds appear to be against him.

And whatever the difficulties he's had with his club manager, Bond remains convinced of Fashanu's future: "He's made tremendous progress at the top level. He still has a lot to learn, but at his age that's not suprising.

"I admire his ability and believe he has what it takes to become a Hell of a fine player."





Essendon manager Frank Burvin looks like the cat that got the cream as Socceroo winger Tommy Cumming signs for another term with Essendon.

After eight rounds of the Philips League, the Victorian outlook was so rosy that the fans were pinching themselves, wondering if it isn't all too good to be true.

Heidelberg, then unbeaten, were sitting on top of the League — quite rightly too — having got there through sheer hard work and unequalled team spirit.

What seemed a disaster at the time, the abrupt departure of coach Manny Poulakakis, was turned into a triumph by two of the most dedicated professionals in the game, Paddy Bannon and Jimmy Rooney, who lead by example on and off the field.

Heidelberg were scoring nearly three goals a game, and up there at the spearhead, grabbing more than half of them, was the defenders' nightmare, Gary Cole.

Cole, with 12 goals in eight games was beginning to make Mark Jankovics' record of 18 set last year look silly. At this rate he'd score 40 before the end of the season (shades of Dixie Dean!)

No praise is too high for the 'Bergers, for they have revitalised Victorian Soccer, and all without importing a single player.

The squad is unchanged, except for the departed Branko Buljevic, but the team spirit is different and it's all down to Bannon and Rooney.

Well, nearly all, for some of Heidelberg's success is a spin-off from having a successful State team, since seven of the side are in the Victorian team, and State coach, Len McKendry, takes a keen interest in Bannon's and Rooney's coaching. They often go to him for advice.

Thus, Victoria is having its greatest impact on Australian soccer for a long time, as was shown by the team that came nearest to beating Czechoslovakia, with the 2-2 draw at Olympic Park.

That squad contained eight Victorians, and represented a complete turnabout from the policy Gutendorf announced late last year of picking an Australian team mainly from Marconi and Sydney City.

Victorian soccer coming up roses!

By LES SHORROCK

The Blues have blooded three Under-19 players in recent weeks, Vlatko Belic, Paul Simic and Bruno Cozzella, but with their small senior squad, could have difficulty in keeping a high place on the ladder.

In a bold move to find a permanent home, Footscray moved into the Western Oval, home of the Footscray "Footy" club, with Council approval and all seemed to be well when their first match there, on Easter Sunday, saw them win 5-3 against St George before a crowd of 3,500.

Then the Victorian Football League stepped in to forbid the Footy club to continue sharing and despite an intervention by the Minister of Sport, Mr Brian Dixon, refused to relent.

The VFL club, under the threat of being kicked out of the League was obliged to cancel the arrangement, and Footscray were back at Olympic Park, for several weeks, anyway.

Juventus of the State League made arrangements to share a Footy oval, too, that of the Brunswick club, who play in the Victorian Football Association and by contrast, theirs is a much happier story.

Brunswick's lease on the ground was renewed by the Council with the proviso that Juventus be allowed as sub-tenants for at least four years, and much to Juventus' gratified amazement, their opening match on the ground had an attendance of 3000.

Essendon, who swept the board of titles last year, winning the State League championship and the State League and Dockerty Cups, have made a flattering start in defence of their title.

After they had won the Ampol Cup, defeating both South Melbourne and Heidelberg in the process, many critics were inclined to the view that the 1980 title was already theirs.

But a surprise draw against unfancied Western Suburbs in their opening match, followed by a loss to arch-rivals Preston has left the Reds three points in arrears of Preston, and the race is now on in earnest.

Another State League club coming steadily into prominence is Green Gully. The new suburb of Green Gully lies between St Albans and Keilor in the outer Western Suburbs of Melbourne, on a reclaimed refuse tip.

The Keilor shire is in the process of building a massive sports complex, of which the Soccer club is the focal point.

Recently the club opened a new clubroom, valued at more than \$250,000 and built entirely by the members without borrowing a cent, which it is hoped will soon be the first fully licensed Soccer club in Victoria.

The club's efforts off the field are being matched on the field too.

Bobby McLachlan steered Footscray away from relegation last year, was engaged as coach, then Green Gully scooped several Philips League clubs by signing Eire International Jimmy Dunne, of Fulham and Torquay fame.

Gully greeted his arrival by knocking Footscray out of the Philips Cup in a gutsy performance, after going a goal down in extra time.

Incidentally, the Gully midfield that day contained three internationals, Billy Vojtek of Australia, Willie Vassallo of Malta and Jimmy Dunne of Eire, which must be some sort of a record.

The Greens seem set, with ordinary luck, to finish in the four, and their rise to the top echelon symbolises the shift of the balance of power towards the newer, outer-suburban clubs.



Essendon goalkeeper Peter Blasby in acrobatic mood.

Kozak the Knight in Gambit to Czechmate European Title

By STEPHEN BLATCHFORD



Australians who saw Czechoslovakia during its five-match tour here in January and February will have mixed views about its capacity to retain the European Championship in Italy from June 11 to 27.

But form against Northern New South Wales and South Australia can be discounted.

The Czechs used those matches to give all players in the squad a game, and fielded teams far below the strength of the eleven who - barring injuries or illness - will take the field in Italy.

Then again, we never saw the best of Zdenek Nehoda and Antonin Panenka during the tour.

They seemed lackadaisical and lethargic for most of their time in Australia, showing their ball control only in flashes, and their speed and determination even more rarely.

After some disappointing results when they had returned to Europe, the Czechs seem to be running into form at the right time - particularly Nehoda, who scored both goals in a 2-2 draw with Spain and the only goal in a 1-0 win over Hungary.

A few days ago I had the chance to see again the Special Broadcasting Service's complete television coverage of the Czechoslovakia v Australia match at the Sydney Sports Ground, and there is no doubt that in Marian Masny, Anton Ondrus - their captain - and Jan Kozak they have three players of world class.

Kozak was the most underwritten player on their tour, and even their coach, Dr Jozef Venglos, always hedged his praise of Kozak with reservations.

But the film, seen at leisure with opportunity to re-run movements, confirmed the memory that Kozak was the mainspring of all Czechoslovakia's worthwhile attacks in that second half, when they scored five goals, as he was for most of the tour.

Apart from starting every telling action from midfield or deep in his own defence, he played a decisive hand in carrying the movements on, interchanging passes with Jozef Barmos or Masny or Frantisek Stambachr, and on three occasions making the final pass which put the scorer in position to get the goal and scoring the fifth goal himself.

It was Kozak's low drive across the goalmouth which gave Masny the chance to sidefoot the ball past Woodhouse for the first goal.

It was Kozak's pass again which put Masny 10 metres clear of any Australian defender on the edge of the penalty area to score the third goal.

And it was Kozak himself, running across the back of the penalty area, who hit a left foot snap shot across his body with his left foot to score the fifth.

In between he was a bundle of

perpetual motion and skill, showing fine defensive qualities, positional sense and exquisite timing in his tackles to add to his considerable constructive and attacking gifts.

If the Czechs get into top gear in Italy, it would not be surprising to learn that Kozak is voted the man of the tournament.

On recent form - if the Czechs get past Holland and West Germany and reach the final - their opponents are most likely to be England.

Victories over Spain (2-0) in Spain and Argentina (3-1) at Wembley came at just the right time to boost English morale and give them a psychological edge over their opponents.

England's 4-1 defeat by Wales in the British Championship is of little consequence. England were without Keegan, Brooking, Wilkins, Watson, Neal, Cunningham, Francis and Woodcock.



ZDENEK NEHODA - a rare moment of dominance during the Czech tour.

Their group, with Italy - always hard to beat in front of their own fanatical crowds - Belgium and Spain, looks slightly less daunting than Czechoslovakia's.

But the Belgians, dour and stubborn, eliminated Portugal and Scotland to get to the finals, and Italy are capable of shattering Soccer if they are in gear and in the mood.

If they go into brooding defence, however, and if referees are strong enough to curb the physically destructive Tardelli, England will beat them.

England's weakness is in defence.

If they are allowed to attack, and players like Kevin Keegan, Trevor Brooking, Butch Wilkins, Tony Woodcock, Laurie Cunningham and David Johnson are allowed free expression, there is no stopping England.

But if attackers will run at England's defenders, they can be beaten.

Dave Watson and Phil Thompson are ponderous and slow to turn. Hans Krankl and his Austrian teammates showed that, and Paolo Rossi - if he's cleared of the bribery stigma in time to play - and Roberto Bettega are just the players to exploit this.

But the catenaccio caution of manager Enzo Bearzot and the dark moodiness of the Italian team may, on the day, be more threatening than the England team.

Neither the West Germans nor the Dutch can be discounted these days.

But both are in an enforced re-building phase, and time may run out on them before they have completed the job.

The Germans are handicapped by the dispersal of some of their finest talent around Europe, and from replacing it with imported stars instead of allowing their fine young players opportunities to develop - are you listening, Australia?

Holland, struggling financially in Soccer despite its immense industrial and commercial wealth, suffers from not being able to retain the cream of its players against the temptations of Spain or North America.

That leaves Spain, Belgium and Greece.

By almost anybody's standards the Greeks are the imposters in this tournament, but they will have nothing to lose, and they may well spring a nasty surprise or two on the more fancied nations before they lower the blue and white flag.

Belgium and Spain are the enigmas.

Spain have so many skilful and capable players that at club level they still pose problems to any side in Europe - albeit with the help of imports such as Cunningham, Rainer Bonhof, Mario Kempes, Uli Stielike and Allan Simonsen.

But Ladislav Kubala has not got the national team to fire. Spain qualified for the European finals only because Yugoslavia lost its Soccer way for a while and failed to find it in time. Despite the draw with Czechoslovakia, the Spaniards are unlikely to delay the progress of Italy or England.

So, in my book, it's England or Italy and Czechoslovakia for the final, with the West Germans and Holland having to wait for the next World Cup to reassert their European authority.



KEVIN KEEGAN

THE TASK OF THE CENTURY

Australia will face the strongest England team that has ever come to this country when it turns out for the Soccer Centenary match at the Sydney Cricket Ground on May 31.

The squad of 16 announced by England team manager Ron Greenwood has won a total of 58 full international caps, 23 Under-23 and 28 Under-21 international caps, and in addition, Glen Hoddle, Russell Osman, Kevin Reeves and Bryan Robson.

It is certainly "The strongest side England could possibly have sent in the circumstances," says Paul Reaney, former Leeds United and England fullback now with Newcastle United in the Philips League.

While at Leeds, Reaney played alongside Trevor Cherry, the most-capped player in Greenwood's squad, and he has played against many of the England party.

He said: "I don't know whether Cherry will play at fullback or in midfield. I think his best position is in midfield, and that's certainly where he prefers to play."

"Australians may not see this team at their best."

"They'll be in and out of Sydney in less than a week. I don't think they'll get over their jet lag. They won't have time. It took me more than a week to get over it when I arrived."

"The colder weather here in the middle of winter will certainly suit the Englishmen. If they had come here in the heat of summer it could have affected their play and slowed them down a lot."

"As it is, their pace may be a bit of a problem for the Socceroos."

Another Yorkshireman, Alan Vest, who is Reaney's team manager at Newcastle, also rates the England squad highly.

"It's a fair blend of older, more experienced players and young men who are just breaking into international Soccer."

"The whole team will be well worth seeing, and our lads will learn something from them," Vest said.

But he does not think Australia's cause is necessarily lost: "It'll be hard, but if the Englishmen are psychologically a bit down on the day, and if there is a large partisan crowd behind our lads it could 'psych' them up."

"In that case, the Australians could give the Englishmen a game. Normally, you couldn't give the Socceroos a chance, but it's like an FA Cup match. On the day, anything could happen."

It was never likely that Kevin Keegan or Laurie Cunningham would be here on May 31.

HSV Hamburg and Real Madrid have consistently refused to release their English stars to play for England in all but



competition matches such as the World Cup, European Championship or British Championship.

In any event, either Keegan or Cunningham would have been required for his club in the final of the European (Champions') Cup a few days before Australia's Centenary match.

In fact, Hamburg beat Real in the semi-final, and it is Keegan who will be required for the final against Nottingham Forest.

At least four of the squad will be familiar to Australian television Soccer viewers - Brian Talbot and Alan Sunderland of Arsenal and West Ham's Phil Parkes and Alan Devonshire.

The England 16-man squad, with their full international caps in brackets after their names, is: Goalkeepers, Joe Corrigan (Manchester City) and Phil Parkes (West Ham); Defenders, Terry Butcher (Ipswich), Trevor Cherry (Leeds United), Brian Greenhoff (Leeds United), Alan Kennedy (Liverpool); Midfielders, Russell Osman (Ipswich), David Armstrong (Middlesbrough), Alan Devonshire (West Ham), Brian Talbot (Arsenal), Glen Hoddle (Spurs) and Brian Robson (West Brom); Strikers, Paul Mariner (Ipswich), Kevin Reeves (Manchester City), Alan Sunderland (Arsenal) and Peter Ward (Brighton).

Paul Reaney, the former England and Leeds United fullback, now with Newcastle United in the Philips League, became disgusted with spectator violence in English Soccer, and decided to do something about it.

Along with TV and radio personality Jimmy Saville, Reaney launched the Hand of Peace movement to make a record, which was released shortly before Reaney left England.

The record, released on the WEA international label, has not yet arrived in Australia;

The Peace Team, lined up here is: Back row (left to right) - England and Southampton stopper Dave Watson, Gordon McQueen (Manchester United and Scotland), Phil Parkes (West Ham and England), Ricardo Vila (Spurs and Argentina); Middle row (left to right) - Reaney, Peter Withe (Newcastle United), Bob Latchford (Everton and England); Viv Anderson (Nottingham Forest and England). Front row (left to right) - Steve Perryman (Spurs and England), John Hollins (Arsenal and England) and Osvaldo Ardiles (Spurs and Argentina).

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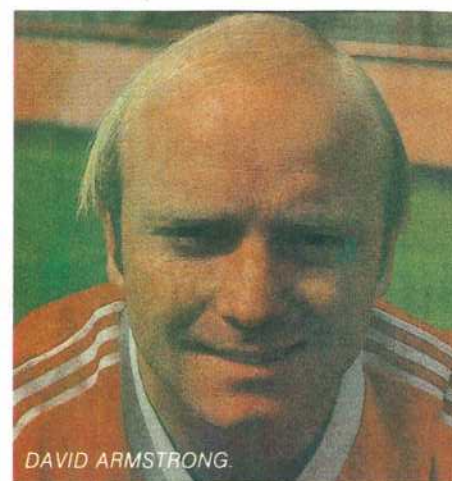


SOCEROOS V ENGLAND





KEVIN REEVES, in Norwich City colours before his transfer to Manchester City for \$2 million, gets up to the ball despite the restraining hand on his shoulder.



DAVID ARMSTRONG.



BRIAN TALBOT.



England 'B' team and Ipswich manager BOBBY ROBSON.

GUTENDORF PLANS TO 'HAMMER' ENGLAND



By STEPHEN BLATCHFORD



RUDI GUTENDORF

The addition of Murray Barnes to the national squad for the match with England shows the singular mindedness and a limitation in the tactical thinking of national coach Rudi Gutendorf.

Barnes has been selected, on Gutendorf's announcement, to play a libero role in the Australian team, although the coach has not yet indicated whether this will be from a sweeper's position behind

the defence, or from a screening position in front of the back four.

Gutendorf is committed to aggressive, attacking Soccer, and this is good. He plans to use the plan West Ham used against Arsenal - retreat and absorb pressure then counter-attack swiftly, catching England on the break.

He has made his team selections consistently on the basis of bite, bustle,

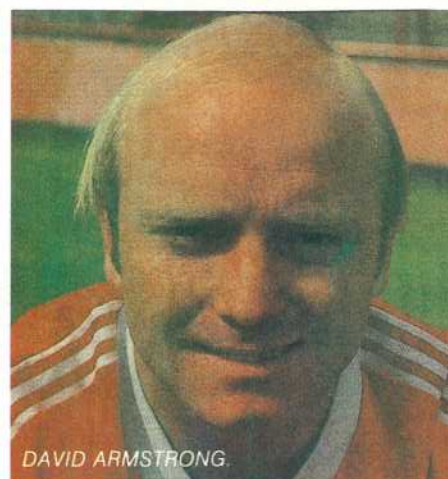
power and determination, and he has stuck steadfastly to players who would give him this even when their level of ball skill or responses to tactical situations were coming under heavy criticism.

He has picked players for qualities he sees in them which were not always being exploited or even appreciated in their clubs.

And there is little doubt that he has



KEVIN REEVES, in Norwich City colours before his transfer to Manchester City for \$2 million, gets up to the ball despite the restraining hand on his shoulder.



DAVID ARMSTRONG



BRIAN TALBOT



England 'B' team and Ipswich Town manager BOBBY ROBSON

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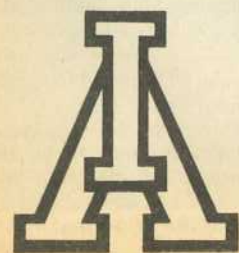
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succeeded.

He feels that Australia's best chance of opening up opposing defences is to have a libero - a player of above average perception, skill and energy available at the back to come forward unexpectedly, taking defenders unawares, and creating goalscoring chances.

It was a role Franz Beckenbauer played superbly in the 1966 World tournament in England.

Coming forward at will from a defensive midfield position, Beckenbauer scored two splendid goals against Switzerland, then another in the semi-final against Russia, and made several other goals for his teammates.

At 18 it was a tremendous performance, and established Beckenbauer immediately as one of the all-time greats in the game.

Gutendorf has been looking for an Australian Beckenbauer. But there are none.

Kaiser Franz is unique, a one-off phenomenon, to be found nowhere else in the world, not even in the land of the duck-billed platypus.

So, Gutendorf has taken a player of rare talents by Australian standards - although not Beckenbauer rare - and experimented with him as a libero operating from sweeper and from a defensive midfield base.

Tony Henderson has carried this task with so much enthusiasm and dedication that he has almost made it succeed. Now he is to operate from stopper, still coming forward when Australia is in possession, but leaving sweeper Ivo Prskalo as defensive cover



MURRAY BARNES wins a heading duel in a 1977 World Cup match with Kuwait.



TONY HENDERSON getting away from MURRAY BARNES in a club match. Are they to be contenders for a place in the national team or teammates?

The problem the plan has caused is that it ignores the basic principle that should always be applied in coaching - to devise a plan to suit the abilities and qualities of the best players available - not form a plan then try to make players fit into it.

Gutendorf has made his plan succeed because he is a coach of more than average knowledge, experience and ability.

But he has still imposed restraints on himself and his team they might be better without.

Now he has drafted Barnes and is going to turn him into something he is not. It may work. He may make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. But he might just as readily make a sow's ear out of a silk purse.

It is still not clear whether Barnes is to be regarded as a successor to sweeper Ivo Prskalo, who through increasing age may become less durable as the World Cup draws near, as a substitute for Henderson, who has shown himself distressingly prone to incapacitating injury, or in a new role to be created for him.

The one thing that is clear so far is that Barnes has not been chosen to pursue his accustomed role of attacking midfielder.

If the national coach is still in a mind to experiment with his squad - there are two names he could pencil into his team sheet with profit to himself and Australia.

Arno Bertogna and Peter Treddinick, two young Newcastle United players who have long since demonstrated they have the qualities needed for the national team, have both been enjoying fine form in the Philips League.

Bertogna has already played for the national team, on tour in China. Treddinick has not.

Since he played for Northern New South Wales Under 16s, I have regarded Treddinick as a player of outstanding talent and attitude to the game.

Evidence is steadily piling up to reinforce that view, and he cannot be far from a place in the national squad, if not now, then certainly when it is increased for the overseas tour later in the year.

The squad Gutendorf chose for the England game was predictable in the light of the various squads he has named during his 16 months in Australia.

After a long period of search and investigation, he named upwards of 60 players at various times, assembling them at various locations in groups large or small, and slowly refining the groups until he had his basic squad.

That is the one he has now named - with the addition of Barnes.

Joe Senkalski is desperately unlucky. Recurring injuries have forced his exclusion from national squads just as he was establishing himself firmly in the 18 regulars.

Henderson, and to a lesser extent Mark Jankovics have also had their international appearances cut by injury.

These misfortunes have been turned to good account, for Gutendorf has used the gaps in the squad to give extended trials, in action, to players under serious consideration.

The result has been the promotion of two more from the Youth squads he took to New Zealand and South America for the last World Youth Cup.

George Christopoulos and Alan Davidson, have progressed and matured at a satisfying rate since those Youth squad tours.

They turned in outstanding performances when the Australian Colts beat the A teams of several nations from Oceania to win a tournament in Noumea in February.

With Greg Woodhouse and Eddie Krncevic from the 1978-79 youth squad already firmly established in the national A team, Gutendorf has shown clearly that the way to reliable long-term team-building is through an extensive and well run youth development scheme.

Gutendorf has also recalled Sebastian Giampaolo, who last played for Australia during the World Cup qualifying matches of 1977.

A half game against New Zealand at the Sydney Cricket Ground was enough to show that without his Inter-Monaro club-mate Walter Valeri, Giampaolo had disturbing limitations at that time.

Since then Giampaolo has matured and has been exposed to the fiercer, more demanding competition of the Philips League.

In consequence he is a much better,

more complete and more accomplished player. He is also more assured and dominating in his attitude.

He no longer needs Valeri, although the two continue to exploit their almost instinctive combination to Canberra City's advantage in the Philips League.

Rooney, as skipper and a player of exceptional dedication, will be expected to be at once the inspiration and mainspring of Australian effort.

He is the one member of the squad who seems to be incapable of a poor game.

His presence in the Heidelberg team has made them both a more attractive and more effective Soccer team, and an Australian team without him at this stage is unthinkable.

Around him Gutendorf has built a team capable of beating Cosmos and drawing with Czechoslovakia.

It is also capable of sliding to crushing defeat against the same opponents - as it did against the Czechs.

It is pointless for Gutendorf to claim that he was taken unawares by events and that his players were unprepared.

He stresses that he is a professional, and derides much of Australian Soccer for not being professional.

He has shown himself to be thoroughly professional in so many ways since he arrived here 18 months ago, and he is justified in many of his criticisms of Australian Soccer.

All the more reason for him to have found out in July, 1979, when he first knew the Czechs would be here in January, what the implications of that tour were.

He should have been aware of what he had to do, and he should have planned to do it.

You can bet your last dollar that he has planned for the England game, and that his team will be as well prepared for it as Australian circumstances permit.

There is no way Australia under Gutendorf is going to be beaten 17-0 by England, as happened in 1951.

That is still the highest score in any international match anywhere in the world, and Australia will be determined to offset that humiliation.

The England team that piled up 17 goals included such notable players as Ted Burgin, Sam Bartram, Frank Lock, Reg Flewin, Syd Owen, Frank Broome, Jackie Sewell, Jimmy Hagan and Bobby Langton.



GOAL picture (Greg Woodhouse) used by ABC TV to promote their coverage of the England game.



GREG WOODHOUSE

Several of those players were in the twilight of distinguished Soccer careers, but Owen and Sewell were not - they were just starting.

They both went on to play for full England teams and to suffer humiliation at the hands - or magical Magyar feet rather - of the Hungarians at Wembley on November 25, 1953.

Sewell scored England's first goal in that 6-3 defeat, and played in the return in Budapest on May 23, 1954, when Hungary won 7-1.

But the England squad for the Centenary match is much stronger all round than the 1951 side, and Australia will have to be in top form and at peak fitness to hold the Englishmen.

Gutendorf has said he is planning to play England the way West Ham played Arsenal - and to soak up England's pressure then hit back in swift counter-attack.

Such a plan against this England team will demand unusual fitness and stamina, and full cover in defence at all times.



JIMMY TANSEY in action against the touring Russians.

ENGLAND TEAM PLAYING FOR WORLD CUP PLACES

It is to be hoped that Gutendorf is given the time and facilities he needs to prepare his squad for the formidable task of taking on an England side of this strength.

Greenwood is not bringing the team here to be beaten. Most of them are playing for places in the squad to go to Italy for the European Championships and to play in the World Cup matches later in the year.

It is an experienced squad yet few of its members are old.

Oldest is goalkeeper Joe Corrigan, who seems to have been around for a lifetime.

In fact he is 33, yet as limber and agile as he was at 23, throwing his massive 194 cm 100kg frame around the goal area like a Red Heeler puppy when the kids come home from school.

Corrigan is now almost a permanent



RON GREENWOOD talking to his team at training.

fixture at Manchester City, having played 333 matches in the first team before the start of the 1979-80 season.

He has not scored a goal - and that's not funny because one of his distinguished predecessors at City, Frank Swift, used to take all the penalties, and one year he was very nearly the team's top scorer.

Corrigan has been desperately unlucky not to have played more than four times for England, but he's been around at a time when Peter Shilton and Ray Clemence were at their peak, and like Siamese twins, they're a difficult pair to split.

Yet at one stage Corrigan was just about ready to quit City, even quit Soccer altogether if need be, because he was taking such a verbal hammering from the supporters.

In the end, he gritted it out and beat the barrackers in the best possible way - by recovering his form, and he doesn't seem to have lost it since.

One way he will be invaluable to Greenwood and coach Don Howe is in his guidance to the younger players in the party. This quality has already been recognised by the FA by making him the over-age player allowed in national Under-21 teams in European competition.

And he played a similar role in 1978 when he went on tour to New Zealand with the England B team managed by Robson.

The England party stopped off between planes in Sydney for several hours and were taken on a coach tour, including a visit to Captain Cook's landing place at Kurnell.

The famous Botany bore was surging through the heads, with great waves 35 metres high rolling into the bay.

Corrigan, a quiet man with a dry sense of humour, took one look at the surging sea and said: "Bloody Hell! Is that real?"

Another member of the touring party who almost gave up Soccer a few years back is Peter Ward, the Brighton striker, who is 160 cm tall and weighs in at 65kg.

Back in his native village midway between the Soccer-mad cities of Derby and Nottingham, Ward was considered too small for his school teams, and had no hope of joining his mates in representative teams.

"We had a good side, and I was always one of the top scorers," Ward says: "But even though the selectors would pick about six lads from our school for the trials for Derby Schoolboys, I never got picked."

But like Corrigan, he stuck out his chest and his chin, pulled in his stomach and his resentment, and set about proving his detractors wrong where it matters most - on the field of play.

Ward was working at the Rolls Royce factory in Derby and playing for Burton Albion in the Southern League, with all hopes of a professional Soccer career abandoned, when Peter Taylor heard of him.

Taylor then managing Brighton during a never-repeated breakaway from his role as sorcerer's apprentice to Brian Clough, gave the goal-hungry youngster a trial.

After the trial, Taylor gave Ward his chance in the first team, it was 1975 and the club was thrashing frantically to shake off the clutching coils of the Third Division.

Ward, his appetite for goals in no way

appeased by his translation to full-time professional Soccer, scored 32 League goals and Brighton won promotion.

"I got off to a good start, scoring in less than a minute in my first game at Hereford."

Ward continued to score goals for Brighton in the Second Division, although missing a number of games through injury and sitting on the substitutes' bench kept his tally down on his 1975-76 achievement.

He still finished 1978-79 with 62 goals in 120 games, a strike rate of 1.94 games per goal, joint second best in the football league.

He wore an England shirt for the first time against Norway in September 1977 in an Under-21 international at Brighton's ground at Goldstone Road.

Again he got away to a good start, scoring three goals.

That day Ward played alongside Peter Barnes and Laurie Cunningham, and when he went with the full England squad to Luxembourg, it looked as if he was on the same up escalator as the two wingers.

"But I wasn't picked to play and that was that. I haven't had a look-in since."

He had to wait for the season just ended for the final pay-off for himself and Peter Taylor.

With Taylor once more back in Clough's fold and Alan Mullery in charge, Brighton had a poor start in the First Division, partly due to Ward's absence from the side through injury.

With the team sunk in the muddy waters at the bottom of the table, Ward came back from injury for the away game with Nottingham Forest, European Champions and unbeatable at home for three years.

Incredibly, Brighton won, and went on winning, climbing slowly out of the danger zone and into clear water - and best of all becoming the first English side to complete the double of home-and-away wins over Forest for nearly four years.

Now for Ward, the final triumph has arrived - a full England cap and a trip to Australia for the centenary match.



PETER WARD in action for Brighton.

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The other player without a full cap is Alan Sunderland, who was capped for the Under-23 team as a substitute in 1974, and was still young enough to play for the Under-21 team three years later.

He was regarded as a midfielder at Wolves, and also played nearly half a season at full back. With Arsenal he has been converted to a twin-striker with Irishman Frank Stapleton.

Of these six, the most likely to make the full England squad later this year are Kennedy, Ward and Osman.

The others may have to wait while the more experienced players in the party have had their turn - most of these are near enough to first choice to hope for places in the European Championship squad for Italy.

Trevor Cherry of Leeds already has 25 caps going back to 1976 - he's played for England more than anyone else in the group - and Brian Greenhoff of Manchester United played 17 times for England from 1976 to 1978.

Their day might be passing, but others - such as the indestructible, inexhaustible Brian Talbot - are running into their peak just as Greenwood is looking for fresh blood for his team for the World Cup campaign starting later this year.

Greenwood knows that Mick Mills, Dave Watson, Trevor Brooking, Ray Kennedy and his two goalkeepers, Clemence and Shilton, cannot go on for ever, and he must plan to phase them out for younger men.

This match in Australia gives him an unusual opportunity to run the rule over some of the younger men in contention for the vacancies which must arise soon in his World Cup personnel.

These will be the players for Australians to watch.

They have at one time the talent, the character and the personality to become stars in the next few years.

Glen Hoddle has already given several indications of this.

His tall, slight build has already provided him with problems at Spurs. At one time manager Keith Burkinshaw felt Hoddle was not working hard enough or getting back quickly or often enough to help the defence.

The manager also condemned Hoddle's attitude in asking for a transfer when he was dropped from the side.

Burkinshaw's response was succinct: "Grow up."

Hoddle, immature in mind and body then, although he was already an England Youth and Under-21 star, faded well before the end of every match.

But it was not laziness or indifference that prevented him giving Burkinshaw the sustained performance he demanded.

Hoddle simply hadn't the strength or the stamina.

Now he has filled out, putting on some weight, and this has increased his stamina and, surprisingly, his speed. He has the reserves to keep going flat out for the full 90 minutes of every match.

In his first game for Spurs in the Football League he scored the winning goal against Stoke City, beating Shilton with a



Even sitting on his butt, BRIAN TALBOT still contrives to be fully active and involved

drive from 30 metres. Not many players do that.

He has scored some remarkable goals since then - a thundering volley out of the blue against Manchester United, and a carbon copy in his first full international in the European Championship qualifying match with Bulgaria.

But his speciality is fierce, bending shots from free-kicks, making a mockery of defensive walls.

Just as exciting a prospect is Manchester City's Kevin Reeves, a \$2 million player at 21.

Reeves had a hard time at the start of the season just ended, trying to make up his mind whether to move to Manchester from Norwich.

Norwich City manager John Bond had brought Reeves from Bournemouth when he moved to take over at Norwich, and Reeves felt his future might be with the man who had been his mentor from boyhood.

But the lure of the big club in the big city and the big money with the prospects of a big future finally won out and Reeves moved in mid-season.

Like Hoddle, he came to full England status after playing for the Youth and Under-21 teams.

And with Hoddle he played his first full international against Bulgaria, coming into the side when the match was deferred because of fog and Kevin Keegan was recalled to club duty for Hamburg.

Watch the way this young man plays when he hasn't got the ball, making himself available in space, and not wasting the ball when he has possession.

What's more, he keeps going for the full match, and that quality is not always

found in strikers.

Norwich have found it harder to win matches since Reeves went to Manchester, and Justin Fashanu in particular misses his striking partner.

Bryan Robson of West Brom is another midfielder with a great future, with Youth and Under-21 caps and one full England game on his record.

He is part of a fine young team manager Ron Atkinson has built up at West Brom, with Derek Statham, Brendon Batson, Cyrille Regis, Gary Owen and Peter Barnes well in the running for long-term international careers.

England's main thrust against Australia may well come from Paul Mariner. He is completely different in style as a central striker from Peter Ward.

Tall (183 cm) and lithe, he is strong on the ball and superb in the air. He has already won five full caps against such talented rivals as David Johnson, Bob Latchford, Stuart and Mick Channon. Australia should be so blessed with strikers!

With Shilton, Clemence and Corrigan all nearing the end of their international careers, the world's most expensive goalkeeper (nearly \$900,000 from Queens Park Rangers to West Ham) Phil Parkes might at last get a secure place in the England team.

But he will be hard pressed by two outstanding young goalkeepers, Chris Woods, who replaced him at QPR, and Gary Baily of Manchester United.

That is why Parkes will be anxious to turn in a good performance against Australia.

Gutendorf's skills will be matched by a strong array of coaching and managerial acumen.



JOE CORRIGAN - daring young man without a trapeze still flies through the air with the greatest of ease.

Ward is one of six players in the England party who have not yet played for the full national team.

But like Ward, all of them have worn an England shirt at some level in competitive Soccer, and all have proved their mettle in the most demanding club competition in the world - the English Football League.

Terry Butcher and Russell Osman, both Ipswich defenders, are Under-21 internationals and Osman also played in Youth internationals in 1977.

Butcher started the 1977-78 season as fifth choice for Ipswich and ended the 1978-79 season an England 'B' international.

In between he had won an Under-21 cap in the team that beat Sweden 2-1, playing alongside Osman.

Reeves and Robson of the present England party also played in that match.

Butcher played his first game in the First Division for Ipswich at Everton in April, 1978, because Kevin Beattie, Allan Hunter and Dale Roberts were all injured.

Again, Butcher played alongside Osman.

It will not be surprising if Butcher and Osman take over eventually as England's first-choice central defenders.

Australians will get the chance to judge them at the SCG.

Youth and Under-21 international David Armstrong of Middlesbrough played four times with the Under-23 team, and Alan Kennedy, Liverpool's left back, won six Under-23 caps while he was with Newcastle United, and toured New Zealand with the 'B' team two years ago.

Armstrong is probably the least known of the England party, and that is undoubtedly because he plays for an unfashionable club.

Middlesbrough have never attracted much attention, either in their own locality or in the rest of the world.

Even when the club produced such outstanding players as George Camsell, George Hardwicke, Wilf Mannion and Brian Clough, few people away from Teesside cared that Middlesbrough had nurtured them.

Middlesbrough, with two recent tours here and an Australian lad, Craig Johnston, a first team regular, are possibly better known and better regarded in Australia than they are in London or Bristol.

So Armstrong, who has been a 'Boro faithful and regular - more than 350 consecutive first-team games since he won his place in 1973 - has never caught the attention his Soccer quality deserves.

He is a free-scoring winger, averaging

around 20 goals a season and if he plays in Sydney, he could give Australian spectators a treat and Australian defenders something of a headache.

Alan Devonshire, who had dominating games for West Ham in the FA Cup semi-final against Everton and in the final against Arsenal, has had a sudden rise to fame.

He scored a tremendous solo goal in the semi-final replay, and it was his burst of acceleration and cross from the by-line which opened up the Arsenal defence for Trevor Brooking's match-winning goal in the final.

And he was rewarded with a full cap in the British International Championship against North Ireland.

Bryan Robson got his first full cap in that match and Kevin Reeves his second.

These changes after the 4-1 defeat by Wales give a clear line on Greenwood's thinking - that the squad coming to Australia includes most of the players he has in mind as the replacements of the ageing members of his present England squad, and some of the new boys may get their chance in the European Championships in Italy if they do well at the S.C.G.

Corrigan also played in the Northern Ireland match, but that may have been more of an insurance policy

THE MEN WHO GUIDE ENGLAND'S DESTINY

Ron Greenwood has a formidable record since he took over from Don Revie as England manager in 1977, about a year before Gutendorf arrived in Australia.

England teams have lost only four matches since he took control, and have beaten almost every country of Soccer note in that time, culminating in the recent 3-1 victory over world champions Argentina with Diego Maradona and seven of their World Cup winning players in the side.

Greenwood showed his coaching and managerial skills at West Ham after a solid but unexceptional career as a player with Chelsea.

He has always insisted on skill as a prime requirement in players, allied as far as possible with speed, enthusiasm, strength and stamina.

Thus he laid the foundations of the West Ham sides which won the FA Cup in 1964 and 1975, and the European Cup-winners' Cup in 1965, finishing as runners-

up in 1976.

He encourages players to improvise and be flexible on the field. That is why he demands a high degree of skill, because without it players have to stick to laid-down patterns and cannot use their initiative.

He sums up his philosophy: "Never tell players that the game is simple. It is only good players who make it look simple, and there is nothing harder to achieve than simplicity."

Greenwood has surrounded himself with assistants who share his soccer ideas and attitudes.

Robson and Howe grew up as players under Vic Buckingham at West Brom, and Buckingham, like Greenwood, demanded skill.

The West Brom team of Buckingham's day reflected his ideas and standards, with Stuart Williams, Jimmy Dugdale, Ronnie Allen, Ray Barlow and Frank Griffin playing alongside Howe and Robson.

And Buckingham was the man who introduced total football to Holland, and thence to the world, when he was coach at Feyenoord, well before Hennes Weisweiler took over at Ajax.

Putting into practice as coach and manager the ideas and concepts they learned playing together for West Brom and England, Howe and Robson have wrought wonders with Arsenal and Ipswich.

They are now doing a similar job for England, Howe as the man who gets Greenwood's ideas across in detail to the 'A' team, and Robson developing the younger players for first team duty in the 'B' team.

They make a formidable team themselves, and it is this panel as much as the players in the England squad, that Gutendorf and his Socceroos will have to contend with at the Sydney Cricket Ground on May 31.



Bobby Robson (left), manager of England's B team and Ipswich Town in the English First Division, will be in Australia as assistant to England manager Ron Greenwood. He is

seen here with two of the players who are in the England squad to play at the Sydney Cricket Ground on May 31. Striker Paul Mariner is next to Robson and midfielder

Brian Talbot is on the right. This picture was taken when the England B team was in Sydney on its way to New Zealand in 1978.

Before the next issue of Goal is on sale, Northern Ireland will be among us. Unless members of the team are injured during the British International Championship, the Irish squad will include Pat Rice, Sammy Nelson and Pat Jennings of Arsenal, Allen Hunter of Ipswich, Sammy McIlroy and Jimmy Nicholl (although he was Canadian-born) of Manchester United and Martin O'Neill of Nottingham Forest. They will be well worth watching, says MICK McMANUS.

The Pride of Ulstermen The Wearin' o' The Green

The last time Pat Rice came to Australia he captained Arsenal in the World of Soccer tournament against Celtic, Red Star Belgrade and an Australian XI three years ago.

This time he'll be right back for Northern Ireland in the four match tour from June 12 to 22, including three internationals against Australia in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

The fourth match will be against Western Australia in Perth.

Rice it seems has been around for ever. He started his career with Arsenal in 1964, has played more than 500 games for the first team and has been captain for five years.

He took over when Frank McLintock left Highbury for Queens Park Rangers.

Rice is the only surviving member of the Arsenal team which won the Football League Championship-FA Cup double in 1971.

He won his first cap for Northern Ireland in 1969 and will have nearly 50 by the time he gets to Australia.

Gritty, tenacious and thoughtful rather than dashing or brilliant in his play, he has been a fine clubman and international player.

Pat Jennings is the most-capped Ulsterman in Soccer history, with close to 90 full international appearances.

He has spent all his Soccer career with London clubs, starting with Watford, then moving to Tottenham and on to Arsenal, and piling up nearly 800 games, more than 700 in the Football League.

He was the third goalkeeper to be voted England's Player of the Year, in 1973, and two years later became the Professional Footballers' Association's Player of the Year.

For years he has been rated the best goalkeeper in Britain - ahead of Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton - and some have claimed him to be the best in Europe.

He did not come to Australia with Arsenal in 1977 but Sammy Nelson did.

Nelson is the third Ulsterman in the Arsenal defence, but he spends very



PAT RICE

nearly as much time in and around his opponents' penalty area as near his own.

An adventurous, swashbuckling player, he has played nearly 300 games for Arsenal and been capped nearly 50 times for Northern Ireland.



Pat Jennings, Northern Ireland's long-serving goalkeeper, nearing his 90th international cap.

Nicholl has been playing as a sweeper for Northern Ireland, and has for some time been obsessed with an urge to convert from right back to a central defender.

Denied the chance by the continuing outstanding form of Martin Buchan and Gordon McQueen, and the emergence of Kevin Moran as a centre-back, Nicholl has suffered much frustration.

But that is all behind him now, banished by the three hammerings Northern Ireland took while he was at sweeper - 4-0 by the Danes and 4-0 and 5-1 by England.

"Kevin Keegan destroyed me mentally as well as physically in those matches, and cured me of eating my heart out to play in the centre of the defence.

So maybe now I'm settled at right back, although I don't think it's my natural position.

Nicholl has played more than 150 games for United's first team in the past five seasons.

He was still a raw youth when he played against Liverpool in the 1977 FA Cup Final and had a brilliant game against Steve Heighway.

He is still only 23 and already has nearly 30 full international caps, so clearly he has an outstanding future both for club and country.

Martin O'Neill was already a Northern Ireland international when he joined Nottingham Forest from Distillery.

Since then he has played nearly 300 games for Forest and more than 30 for his country.

A skilful and determined midfielder-winger, he has helped Forest win the Football League Cup in 1978 and 1979, the Football League Championship in 1978 and the European Champions' Cup in 1979, and to reach the final of the Champion's Cup again this year.



JIMMY NICHOLL

O'Neill's first cap was against Russia in 1970 - the match in which Allan Hunter also got his first cap.

Hunter joined Ipswich in 1972 after two years with Oldham Athletic and a further two with Blackburn Rovers.

He cost Ipswich more than \$100,000 and was Robson's first big-money signing after joining the club in 1969.

Hunter won six caps while with Blackburn, and has collected another 50 since he moved to Ipswich.

A tough, unyielding defender, he has been a key player in the Ipswich rise to success under Robson's guidance.

Sammy McIlroy has been one of the vital factors in Manchester United's revival over the past five seasons, playing more than 300 League and Cup games for the club, and winning more than 40 caps for Northern Ireland.

An exuberant and inventive midfielder, he makes many goals but he also scores them by persistence as well as skill, and has formed an effective partnership for United with Scotsman Lou Macari.

McIlroy's clubmate Jimmy Nicholl is a sturdy and dependable rightback, who has

played nearly 200 games for United and more than 30 for Northern Ireland.

Born in Canada of Ulster parentage, Nicholl made his mark as a young player in the 1977 FA Cup Final against Liverpool.

Between 1951 and 1964 Billy Bingham, now Northern Ireland manager, won 56 caps while with Sunderland, Luton Town, Everton and Port Vale.

He was a speedy, bustling winger with fine ball control and a spirited attitude to the game.

After he finished playing he became a manager, first with Southport, then Plymouth Argyle, Lindfield and Everton.

He also had a spell as national coach of Greece before taking over Northern Ireland.

He led Southport to promotion from Division 4 and Lindfield to the All-Ireland championship.

As a player he won a Football League championship medal with Everton and a F. A. Cup runners-up medal with Luton Town.

He started his Soccer career with Glen-toran.

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ARSENAL GUNS SILENCED BY THE HAMMERS

By **STEPHEN BLATCHFORD**
who watched the game on
television.

Alan Sunderland, hero of Arsenal's last-minute win over Manchester United in last year's FA Cup Final, was the villain of the piece against West Ham at Wembley this year.

Few noticed that it was Sunderland's woefully misdirected which set Trevor Brooking on his way starting the move which brought the decisive goal in the 13th minute.

It should have been noticed, because it was crucial for the clear indication it gave that Sunderland was out of touch.

And with him out of touch, Frank

Stapleton had to take on the entire West Ham defence on his own.

Time after time, Stapleton took two or three defenders out of the West Ham penalty area, but with Sunderland nowhere, Arsenal's midfielders and back four had only one target — Stapleton.

Stapleton twisted and turned to such good effect that often the Hammers' defenders could stop only by fouling him.

Arsenal added to their own problems by persisting in pushing long high balls forward into the West Ham penalty area.

With Sunderland virtually out of it, and Stapleton too often fighting a lone hand, the Hammers' defenders picked off these high balls pretty much as they liked.

Time was rapidly running out when Arsenal skipper Pat Rice three times in a few seconds had the ball out on the right and just inside the West Ham half.

Each time he hit it high and hard into the West Ham penalty area.

Each time it came back to him, headed

out by opposing defenders.

It was the sort of time-wasting which played right into West Ham's hands.

And when Arsenal did attack along the ground, they continually played the ball across the face of the West Ham defence.

There were few signs of the short sharp through pass which leaves defenders flat-footed and turning too slowly to stop a striker on the burst.

With half an hour to go Arsenal manager Terry Neill made a change bringing off young John Devine and substituting the more aggressive attacking skills and experience of Sammy Nelson.

It was the wrong move.

Neill should have taken off Sunderland, not Devine, and should have done it long before he made his switch.

He escaped his marker only once more in the game, and then he was effective merely in jumping in front of Willie Young in the West Ham penalty area and glancing

the ball outside the post with his head when Young was poised to make one of his powerful downward headers for goal.

From Sunderland's fatal error, Brooking moved the ball forward for about 15 metres, then sent Alan Devonshire away on the left.

A quick burst of acceleration by Devonshire left Rice standing as he held off the tackle, and the young England midfielder — due to play in the Centenary match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground later this month — took the ball almost to the by-line before chipping a ball neatly across the face of the bar, brushing Pat Jennings' fingertips as it went.

David Cross, at the far post, controlled the ball and shot, but it was blocked and bounced back for Stuart Pearson to shoot again and Brooking, completing his run from midfield headed it past Jennings from inside of the six-yards area.

The goal was a fitting, and early reward for Brooking's artistry and industry.

The long-striding, elegant Brooking has often shown his skill and Soccer acumen for West Ham and England, but rarely has his work-rate been so high, and surely never before has he done so much tackling back or made so many interceptions of opposition passes in his own penalty area.

On the day, he was as tireless as Brian Talbot, and tackled as effectively, too.

And if Sunderland was the villain of the piece in the Cup Final, then Brooking was undoubtedly the hero.

Not only did he create and score the vital goal — he set up countless other West Ham attacks that kept Arsenal at full stretch, denying the Gunners the time and room they needed to settle down and get effective attacking moves going.

When Arsenal did force their way back into the game early in the second half, Brooking showed himself to be as calm and controlled in defence and counter-attack as he was creative when West Ham were on top — which was for far longer periods than suited Arsenal's purpose.

But superb as Brooking was, he was not the only Hammer by any means to command respect and admiration.

Billy Bonds proved to be an outstanding skipper, leading by example rather than merely by exhortation.

He was in the thick of everything in West Ham's defence, and having assured himself that the feared Arsenal threat was not going to materialise, he made a few forays down the left wing on his own in the second half, lifting West Ham's flagging spirits and spurring them on to lift the prolonged Arsenal siege.

Alvin Martin, too, had a splendid game in the middle of the West Ham defence, although well as he played, his task was made much easier by the ineffectiveness of Sunderland.

At full back, the young Dundonian, Ray Stewart and the wily old hand, Frank Lampard, covered, marked and tackled immaculately all afternoon, playing vital roles in denying Arsenal the chance they sought so assiduously for so long to score an equaliser.

As a result, Arsenal had only three



The 1980 FA Cup winners, West Ham United: Back row (left to right) — Trevor Brooking, Nicky Morgan, Billy Lansdowne, Phil Brignull, Phil Parkes, Bobby Ferguson, Paul Brush, Alvin Martin, Billy Bonds, David Cross. Front row (left to right) — Geoff Pike, Frank Lampard, Jimmy Neighbour, Pat Holland, Paul Allen, Alan Devonshire, Ray Stewart. (Stuart Pearson is missing from this picture.)



West Ham captain **BILLY BONDS** who led his team by example to victory over Arsenal in the FA Cup Final.

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shots at goal that caused Phil Parkes real concern.

Graham Rix came closest twice, first with a shot in the first half from the edge of the penalty area so fierce that Parkes was unable to hold it.

Fortunately for West Ham, Bonds was there to tidy up the loose ball and push it back to Parkes before Arsenal could pounce.

Rix tested Parkes to the limit again in the second half, boring in from the left to fire in a long-range shot.

This time the ball was curling wickedly inside the far post after seeming to be going well wide, but Parkes was alert, and got down with remarkable agility to fingertip the ball round the far post while he was at the limit of his considerable stretch.

Stapleton did pounce later in the second half, when Talbot let go a thundering low drive from a free-kick pushed quickly sideways into Talbot's path by Liam Brady — but this time Parkes got down well and clutched the ball firmly to his chest to deny Stapleton a go at a rebound.

For the rest, Arsenal were the victims of their own tactics.

They came out determined to play controlled possession soccer. From the kick-off they held the ball for 17 passes before a goal-kick gave West Ham their first touch of the ball, then continued to slow the game down, appearing to think that they could contain West Ham's methodical approach play by dictating the pace of the game and regrouping quickly when they lost possession.

It must have seemed so different to them from the hectic and furious onslaughts by Liverpool they had withstood so steadfastly in four semi-final matches.

But Arsenal's tactics misfired.

They were given their warning in the 12th minute when lightning acceleration by Pearson left Rice stranded and gasping, while Pearson went on behind the Arsenal defence and pulled back a low cross that Geoff Pike hit low and hard from the back of the penalty area, bringing Jennings down for a fine save.

It was a lesson Arsenal did not heed.

From Jennings' clearance, Arsenal started to build an attack.

But it broke down with Sunderland's disastrous pass, snapped up so eagerly by Brooking and turned, in alchemist fashion, from dross into gold.

It has been suggested that Arsenal were tired after their marathon semi-final against Liverpool.

But professional soccer players at the peak of condition should not be tired by even four semi-finals plus three League matches in three weeks.

Whatever the reason, in their third successive Cup Final it was they who looked nervous, unsure and ill-at-ease, and West Ham who looked composed and confident from the start.

Even Paul Allen, still 100 days short of his 18th birthday and the youngest Cup Finalist ever, looked to be far more in control of himself and the ball than any Arsenal player except Jennings.

Allen is already firmly entrenched as

captain of England's Youth team, and there is little doubt that he will be here leading England in the World Youth Championships in October, 1981.

With another year under his belt following his display in this year's Cup Final, Allen could well be another Maradona.

He will certainly be one of the personalities of the tournament.

Arsenal must have found so much maturity and self-assurance alarming in one so young, matched as it was by his skill, enthusiasm, determination and stamina.

If their had been any doubt about his quality remaining in any observer's mind as the game wore on, Allen dispelled it a few minutes from the end.

With as deft a turn as any Stapleton or Brooking produced, Allen got past David O'Leary — arguably the best sweeper in the world today, but not on his Cup Final form — and set sail for goal.

Allen was just putting space between himself and Young at the edge of Arsenal's penalty area when Young snaked out a desperate leg, and brought the young Hammer crashing down.

It was the sort of act nowadays described as a professional foul, although anything more unprofessional it is hard to imagine.

It was certainly not a tackle in keeping with the character and reputation Arsenal have striven so single-mindedly to establish and maintain for more than half a century.

And it robbed young Allen of a moment of glory usually reserved for the dreams and pulp-paper magazines of schoolboys.

It is difficult to think seriously that Allen would not have scored had he been allowed to go on with his run.

Another of West Ham's young midfield discoveries, Alan Devonshire, also had a satisfying match.

Not quite as eye-catching and dominating as his semi-final performance against Everton, it was nonetheless an excellent display, like Allen's showing maturity well beyond the player's years.

The delicate chip made on the run, which was floated over Jennings for West Ham's goal, would have delighted such masters of the past as Stanley Matthews, Tom Finney, Alan Ball, Pele, de Stefano, Jim Baxter, George Best or Johnny Giles had they made it.

Perhaps some of them were watching? It would have delighted them still.

Devonshire will be in Sydney for the Centenary match on May 31 — the culmination of a remarkable rise to soccer eminence.

He, like three others in the Cup Final, is in the squad of 16 England manager Ron Greenwood is bringing here to meet the Soccerroos.

The others are West Ham goalkeeper Phil Parkes and Arsenal's Brian Talbot and Alan Sunderland.

With places in England's European Championship and World Cup squads to play for, they should be at their best in front of the massive crowd expected at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Parkes and Devonshire showed their quality in this year's Cup Final. Unless Australians can remember back to the finals of 1978 and 1979, they have yet to see the best of Talbot and Sunderland.



FRANK STAPLETON, thwarted here by Liverpool in the FA Cup semi final as he was by West Ham in the Cup Final.

CHALDI AND RASIC FACE DIFFERENT PROBLEMS

By TOM McKAIN

For years Gerry Chaldi and Rale Rasic have been regarded as the best coaches in Australia — perhaps grudgingly in some circles, but still the charisma has persisted.



GERRY CHALDI



RALE RASIC

Rasic produced the magic which took Australia into their first World Cup finals back in 1974, and Chaldi wrote his name all over the Philips Soccer League with the league title in 1977, and the Top Four Championship in 1978 and 1979.

Now the pair are in Adelaide facing challenges which, if overcome, will earn them even more plaudits.

Rasic joined Adelaide City last year and got a handclap for taking the Philips Cup, although he had come close to the League title with Marconi twice.

Now he is battling in the middle of the table along with Chaldi, who is now West Adelaide coach.

But the pair are struggling for contrasting reasons — Rasic because he has lost players, and Chaldi because he has bought them.

Chaldi is favourite to clamber out of trouble, because he is rebuilding, and experimenting, and by the middle of the season should have his men charging up the table.

But Rasic has his back to the wall. Injuries hit whizkid Charlie Villani (knee operation) and strongman Brian Northcote (groin operation).

Robert Marwe was transferred along with Chris Kent, and Jimbo Muir has been transferred to Marconi since the start of the season.

Dixie Deans dealt the killer punch when he decided to follow his wife back to Scotland after six matches.

And winger Vic Smythe from State league club Azzurri, looking star material,

has decided he preferred the lower scene after playing only two half games in the Philips League.

City allowed Rasic the luxury of buying only one experienced player — David Jones — at a bargain price from West Adelaide. Jones' price was pegged at \$5000 by his contract and West expected him to re-sign after having joined them from WA back in 1977.

But he didn't re-sign, moving across town instead, to join former WA chum Gary Marocchi.

Rasic's other signings were for the future — Australian Under-16 international Romano Rossi from Azzurri and then recently David Mitchel, State Under-19 squad winger from State League club, Enfield, Victoria.

Back in January Rasic signed 20-year-old Timorese refugee Luis Casimiro, who has delightful ball skills but has still to master how to avoid some of the crude tackling in Australian Soccer.

While Rasic was left to polish up last year's Cup winners, with City intent on reducing the debts incurred in the building of its magnificent complex at Olympic Sports Field, Chaldi was given the go-ahead to buy.

West forked out for Israeli international Shraga Topaz, who was playing in Melbourne, Portuguese star Manecas, and Eric Carruthers from Leichhardt. Carruthers thus went back to the club that brought him out from England.

Chaldi also raided the local market, paying \$12,000 for State team sweeper,

Zoran Maricic, who was with Campbelltown.

This rocked City, who had Maricic training with them, but would not match the transfer fee.

Chris Key (Enfield Victoria) had impressed as a State striker, and at 21 was considered a bargain for \$6000.

Enfield had two other youngsters — Under-19 international Ian McKie, and Brian Gale — whose contracts were up for renewal if they didn't want to move on free transfers.

Chaldi asked them to join him, and they did.

McKie has now grabbed a permanent place in West's first team squad.

Gale is the regular reserve goalkeeper to Socceroo Martyn Crook.

Chaldi let Greek international Con Kambas go after they couldn't agree on terms, and put Peter Boyle a Philips League star, on transfer after a dispute over terms.

He sold Garrie Dooley, State midfielder, because he "didn't fit the pattern of the team" and dropped Socceroo squad fullback Vic Bozanic because he "didn't perform".

Chaldi released striker Graham Norris to Azzurri in the State League, and sold them reserve all-rounder John Batchelor and veteran Billy Birch, who had returned from England.

But when trial matches and the early rounds produced few goals, Chaldi had no hesitation in recalling Norris before the start of the State winter league, and

putting him straight back into West's attack.

Only grumble from the fans came when Chaldi signed Carruthers, as he had been sold to Leichhardt (then Apia) from West.

The Scot from Derby County hadn't looked the part when he first joined West, and soon fell out with the then coach John Margaretis.

Chaldi had seen Carruthers play in Sydney and brought him back, certainly looking fitter, but after three games he was dropped.

Chaldi shuffled his team with gay abandon in the opening rounds, and in seven games didn't have the same formation twice.

A 7-0 thrashing from his old club, Sydney City, in Sydney failed to ruffle Chaldi.



Rale Rasic looks anxious as his patchwork team strives to overcome its problems.

"It was a shock, and I felt terrible for a week after, but I have faith in what I am doing and in the players in my squad," he said.

Chaldi called for patience from the fans. "We are creating something new," he said.

"If we fail to make an impression by the halfway mark I might start to worry".

With a "no cash" sign on the boardroom door, Rasic will have to weather the storm.

"I go along with the club's present policy," he said.

"We will have to battle on with our hearts and guts.

"There will be no panic signings.

"And we won't buy unless there is something special on the market — or we land in real trouble."

It appears that Rasic's plans for 1980 backfired before the start of the season.

He had Deans, Muir, Kent and Marwe listed to be unloaded.

Deans was close to going to Sydney, but the deal fell through, and there were no takers for Marwe, Kent and Muir.

Only Deans got a new contract, and when Tony Brennan came on the market Rasic had no spare cash, and Canberra's pokies outbid City.

Marwe and Kent were sold only last month and Muir has gone to Marconi.

This may not be the year that Rasic or Chaldi pick up trophies, but it is the year when they will show just how good they are as coaches.



Gerry Chaldi and his new champion, Manecas.

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C324

Philips League



FRANK ASSESSMENT.

A monthly review of Philips League affairs by General Manager, John Frank.

KEEPING THE CROWDS ONCE YOU'VE GOT THEM.



It is becoming clear and gratifying to me that the playing standards in the Philips League are rising and that there is slowly increasing acceptance of the league among the media, the public and Soccer administrators at other levels.

But if the situation is to continue to improve, the Philips League must push it's own clubs to lift the standards of their amenities.

If all the plans of the Australian Soccer Federation and the Philips League to make Soccer more accepted still, and to attract more spectators to the game are more successful, then action must be taken to retain the new supporters.

Better playing standards, more media exposure - particularly on television - and greater commercial involvement can bring people to the game, once or twice, perhaps even three times.

All those developments are aimed at increasing the number of spectators.

But something has to be done to keep the converts in the fold once they've been enticed there.

To avoid losing them, spectator facilities must be improved as well as playing standards.

The public wants to watch sport in comfort, not just to watch sport.

If we don't improve spectator amenities and facilities then everything else we do is in vain.

Three years ago, the Council of Clubs and the Philips League management committee set minimum standards for grounds, and these standards are gradually being raised, year by year.

These self-imposed undertakings, often expensive, have been given and taken because the clubs realise that if they don't improve the conditions in which the spectators watch the game, eventually there will be no support.

Australians are not as demanding as Americans in this respect.

Australian spectators have become accustomed to accepting less, but Australian trends are beginning to follow those in the United States.

Within five or at most 10 years, Australian spectators will be demanding better facilities, up to the standards now accepted as minimum in the USA.

It could be that in the last three years, Australians have already shown signs of wanting better facilities, and that they are expressing their dissatisfaction by not going to games.

That may be the reason why crowds are not increasing as fast as we would like.

This should be one of the first areas for the new marketing division of the Australian Soccer Federation to research.

One possible reason for Newcastle United's consistently good support is that the accommodation and facilities at the International Sports Centre are so good by comparison with those at other grounds used by other sports in the area.

The most dramatic increase in attendances in the three years of the Philips League has been in Canberra where support leapt from little more than 1500 in the first year to 5000 or more in the second year with move from the cow paddock at Manuka Oval to the magnificent Bruce Stadium.

And even with their present dismal performances on the field, St George continue to attract more people to Barton Stadium than they did to the Sports Ground.

Slowly the clubs are realising the message in these figures. Sydney City have found a new home at E.S. Marks Field, replacing the greyhound track at Wentworth Park, Leichhardt have spent money on upgrading Lambert Park, and Brisbane Lions have moved back to their home territory at Richlands, where they are developing a modern stadium with improved entertainment facilities so that the fans don't have to travel, and the entertainment amenities bring in extra revenue to help pay for the improvements.

This is in keeping with the Philips League policy of gradually developing Soccer outside the capital cities.

Richlands is taking Soccer from Brisbane to the outskirts of Ipswich.

Blacktown City has taken the Philip League to an area of comparative Soccer neglect west of the main Sydney metropolitan area, Newcastle has provided top level Soccer for a large provincial city.

The aim must be to continue that spread to other provincial centres such as Wollongong, Geelong, and Albury.

Marconi fans don't have to travel to the Sydney Sports Ground to see the best Soccer in Australia. It is brought to their door at Marconi Stadium, with a lavishly-equipped club right alongside.

This is providing for the citizens of Liverpool and Fairfield - both outside the Sydney suburban area and developing communities in their own right.

Both at Marconi and at Richlands, there has been a tremendous upsurge of home building which in time will provide new sources of support for Lions and Marconi.

South Melbourne has increased its facilities with a new dining room, bar and press accommodation.

Adelaide City has built its own licensed club at its Olympic Sports Field headquarters, and Footscray tried a progressive move to Western Oval which was that thwarted by the curious attitude of Dr Allan Aylett and Mr Jack Hamilton of the VFL - who would apparently rather see the facilities provided by the ratepayers of Footscray lie idle for 41 weeks of the year than have Soccer on the ground.

It all points to awareness by the clubs in the Philips League of the steps they have to take to attract and retain spectators.

And that is the way it must continue to go.

England's Number One Sporting Supporter

His name is Kenneth Bailey and he claims to be England's no.1 sporting supporter. He is coming to Australia for the Winfield Cup Centenary Soccer match between England and Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground on May 31.

He is known to millions who have seen him in his John Bull outfit supporting English sport all over the world, but very few know his name or anything else about him.

In support of his claim, he travels all over the world at his own expense supporting England, whether it be playing soccer, rugby, lawn tennis or hockey.

He has been nick-named 'Public Energy No.1' in the United States for his running exploits. He was in the Guinness Book of Records for having run 270,000 km in over 59 years of running, further than any man in England and he was fifth in an attempt at the world's 30-mile record.

He literally shook the American's in his younger days when he and three other athletes ran a relay of 1600 km in four and a half days around a liner's deck while it sailed from Southampton to New York.

He was also a member of the Olympic torch relay team in England, and became England's soccer mascot at the World Cup matches in 1966, and as standard bearer of the England Football Supporters' Association, he has not missed an England Soccer match since.

He even went to the 1970 World Cup in Mexico, and is known as 'World Cup Willie'.

Formerly a Rugby player as well as an athlete he was secretary of Bournemouth Rugby Club and is now its vice-president. He tries to pay back the great joy he got out of playing Rugby by attending all the big international matches at Twickenham, wearing his patriotic costume and waving the national flag.

Besides his great love of sport, he devotes much of his time to youth.

He is a governor of two schools and six youth clubs, and is a president of many sports clubs and president of a Young Farmer's club. He owns farms in his native county of Somerset, and has for three years been a Dorset County Councillor. He is public relations officer for the Bournemouth Sports Council.

He lives in a luxury flat overlooking the bay at Bournemouth where he once worked as a civil servant during the day.

He wrote then and still writes a popular social column in a Bournemouth paper as a night time hobby.

He has recently retired and has been honoured by being made a Freeman of Bournemouth.



At 68, he still runs five miles a night, swims in the sea all the year round and plays squash and goes ice skating three times a week.

Mr. Bailey's father who died on World War 1 Armistice Day on November 11, 1918, was the head of the firm of Bailey's of Glastonbury who make sheepskin coats and the crimson boxing gloves marked 'BAILEY'S' that are worn in all world championship fights.

Ken's brother, the late Colonel Vincent Bailey of the Somerset Light Infantry was Commandant of the Army School of music at Kneller Hall, near Twickenham Rugby Ground, and until his death was secretary of the Army Sports Council.

When Ken goes on his travels with England teams, he takes with him thousands of miniature Union Jacks which he distributes to Rugby and Football supporters in the countries he visits because, he says, 'The Union Jack is the most respected flag in the world.'

He was once asked why he had never married, and if he had ever been in love.

He replied, 'Yes. I'm in love with the flag.'

Queensland stalwart dies

A progressive 16-year era of Soccer in Queensland ended suddenly on March 15 this year, with the death of Queensland Soccer Federation president Bill Waddell, MBE.

Mr Waddell had just returned from earning his first Australian blazer as manager of the national Colts team in New Caledonia when he was taken by a sudden heart attack.

Ironically, he had told clubs at the QSF annual meeting of 1979 to 'look for someone else to take over next year. This will be my last.'

As the second president of the QSF, following foundation leader Ian Brusasco, Bill Waddell contributed more than 16 years of boundless energy and dedication to the game, which will be hard to match.

He never played Soccer, but he was an A grade hockey player, outstanding cricketer, top-class lawn bowler and qualified musician, and there was no doubt Soccer was in his blood, as his father Bob was foundation president of the Grange Thistle club.

His son, Bruce, is Soccer writer for the Brisbane Courier-Mail and a Queensland contributor to Goal.

It was with Thistle that Bill Waddell first became an official, then club president, QSF management committee member and finally president.

Three things in particular will long be associated with his term as president.

Most important was the establishment of Perry Park as headquarters in Queensland.

Another major, if controversial move in 1973, was the decision to abolish ethnic or national names.

In a bid to attract more widespread support, names like Helenic, Azzurri, Polonia, Hollandia and Germania disappeared from the Queensland soccer vocabulary.

The third major achievement was perhaps his most cherished dream — the formation of Australia's only truly representative State League.

It began last year and includes teams from Mareeba, Townsville, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Ipswich and the Gold Coast.

The stand at Perry Park which bears his name will be a constant reminder of those significant contributions to the game both in Queensland and nationally.

Members of the Soccer community, including ASF officials and Julius Re, who travelled specially from Perth, were among more than 500 mourners at the funeral.

The greatest tribute was the attendance of officials, not only from Soccer, but from every sport in the State, including the three rival football codes.

It was his general love of sport which led to his formation and leadership of the Queensland Major Sporting Bodies Association.

The Sports Editor of the Brisbane Telegraph, John Morton, summed up Mr Waddell's death succinctly in his column when he said 'Hell Bill, we'll miss you.'

Letters to the Editor

INSPIRED

Sir, — I have been inspired, after reading your excellent first edition to drop you a line and congratulate you on Goal.

To say that I found that first edition the most informative, most interesting, most enlightening, most positive, most innovative, most frank, most generous, and most colourful of all Soccer magazines wouldn't be enough praise — and I include overseas Soccer magazines and previous Australian attempts in my experience.

In fact, on presentation, it must be one of the best magazines of any type available in Australia.

I have complete faith in Goal becoming an established Australian Soccer periodical.

Keep up the good work — I can't wait for the second and following editions.

I have a feeling that Soccer in Australia is about to really take-off. I know that Goal will be there to report it, and I know that the Soccer circles will praise Goal for helping this great game of ours reach those heights.

What else can I say? The Goal has been scored!!

BILL PANAS,
11 Wurruk Street,
Fawkner, Vic, 3060.

INSIGHT

Sir — I would like to applaud your publication and wish it every success.

I find your items are very newsy, and give the Soccer-starved public of Australia a much-needed insight into clubs and personalities within the game here.

As Sir Arthur George points out in his forword in your April issue, the media coverage is far from adequate.

I wish your publication every success.

DEREK ROBINSON,
85 Sherbrooke Street,
Ainslie, ACT, 2602

NASTY!

Sir — I have just completed a thorough cover to cover read of Goal, and upon completing this rather arduous task, I feel compelled to tell you exactly what to do with it, but I shall desist in the hope that you will attempt to rectify a rather nasty little theme that seems to dominate the pages of your magazine.

By the way, I notice you do not have a letters segment but I hope you will do your best to include this letter in a future issue (unless of course, Victorians are not looked upon as being competent enough to make criticisms of your obvious NSW bias).

I am not in the habit of trying to tear apart anything connected with Soccer, and I agree that a magazine of Goal's calibre is sorely needed, but the way I see it, either change the name to NSW Soccer Monthly or tone down some of your journalists' comments regarding Victoria. (I would add other States here, but there was not enough written about them to gauge their standing in your eyes; or is it one eye.)

Andrew — The World Revolves Around NSW — Dettre blunders his way through a dozen paragraphs berating the three Melbourne Philips League clubs. Heidelberg in particular, seems to have come in for some unfair comments.

How can a side as talented as the 'Bergers' be called useful?

They have finished 3rd, 5th and 2nd so far in the Philips League since 1977, and after seven rounds this season were undefeated and top the table. Melbourne clubs lay first, fourth and fifth with only three defeats between them.

Now I'll take a swipe at another budding member of the 'Wipe-Victoria-Off-The-Face-Of-The-Earth, Society', Peter Connell.

I've seen almost every major Soccer ground in Australia and if you had done the same you would find that the Bruce Stadium and ISC Newcastle, although lacking floodlights, are even better than the Sydney Cricket Ground. When did Peter Connell become a better judge than FIFA?

An obvious bit of Sydney bashing comes on page 25 where we hear of all those magical attendance figures.

In the bread-and-butter club Soccer in Sydney you have one of, if not possibly the worst, attendance figures of all the major Soccer-playing States. It's great to get 55,000 to an international once a year but now justify a superb outfit like Sydney City drawing 1500 or 2000 on a good day.

After all were they not promoted to the hilt by John Warren last season? What happens to the 55,000 during the 35-odd weeks of the regular season?

Finally, and unfortunately, I must add to the list a Soccer scribe whom I respect and admire as much as any, Stephen Blanchford (sic). In his article on page 27-29 he talks of Melbourne crowds and their behaviour at the Czech game.

Yes the crowd behaviour was at times disgraceful to Mr Gutendorf (but he added fuel to the fire with his rude behaviour) and a large portion of the crowd on the terrace vocally and visually supported Australia for the full 90 minutes and have done so for many years now. (They call themselves the Kangaroo Kop.) Give credit where credit's due or don't generalise.

Soccer crowds are not cricket crowds and cannot be compared in any way. It has been shown that per capita of population Victoria are the most sports-going public IN THE WORLD.

I shall keep buying Goal for the time being as it certainly fills a gap in Australian Soccer, but I buy in the hope that all that sort of rubbish in the first issue will not be repeated.

Articles of the calibre of Mr Blanchford's (sic) interview with Ian Callaghan are just what the doctor ordered, interesting, knowledgeable and well written.

I realise it's a Sydney magazine but do your best to be a bit less obvious.

GREG BLAKE,
33 Ida Street,
Niddrie, Vic, 3042

As George Bernard Shaw once said to a vocal critic — 'My dear sir, I heartily agree with you, but who are we two among so many?' Just one to two points in Mr Blake's letter are worthy of comment:

- It is difficult to have a letters column in the first issue of any magazine.

- Les Shorrock, our Melbourne correspondent, was far more scathing about Victoria's three Philips League clubs than Andrew Dettre was but this did not occasion any comment from Mr Blake.

- Peter Connell was proved right. The Sydney Cricket Ground was chosen as the location for the final of the World Youth Championships in 1981.

- I was flattered by Mr Blake's reference to me (and fully concede his right to criticise anything I write) and would be even more flattered if he would spell my name correctly.

- Please Mr Blake, keep buying Goal, and keep sending in your letters.

- Readers will be pleased, I hope, to see material from Queensland and South Australia in this issue and a review of a coaching booklet written by that fine player and equally good coach, Ron Tindall, who is Director of Coaching in Western Australia — The Editor.

VALUE

Sir — Goal is certainly great value for \$1.25 and gives a comprehensive cover of the Australian soccer scene although you seem to overlook the West — a State where the game is making rapid progress.

Meantime, I have reproduced a copy of the cover in the Sunday Observer — the best read soccer newspaper in Victoria.

Good luck with your publication.

FRED VILLIERS,
Sunday Observer
Melbourne

Mr Villiers is one of Australia's most distinguished and respected Soccer writers, broadcasters and telecasters. We are most gratified by his compliments and his good wishes. We shall spread to the West as soon as we can appoint a correspondent — The Editor.

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Deals with prevention, first-aid and after care. The author is a keen sportsman who trained at Cambridge University and London Hospital. He lives in Tasmania.

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THE COMPLETE JOGGER by Bruce Tulloh

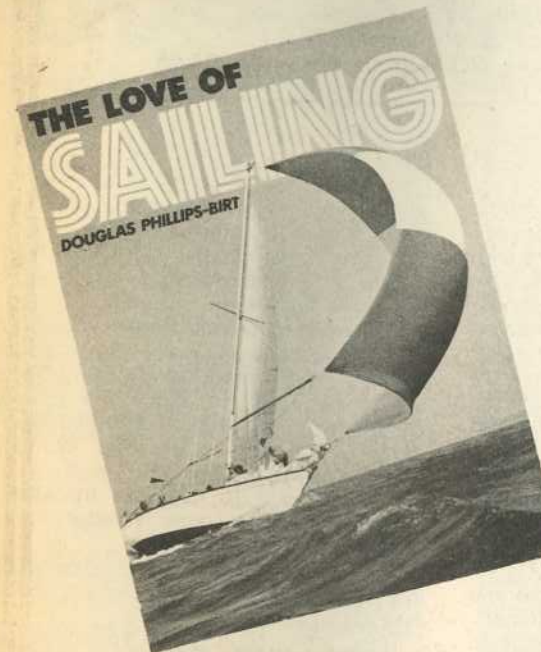
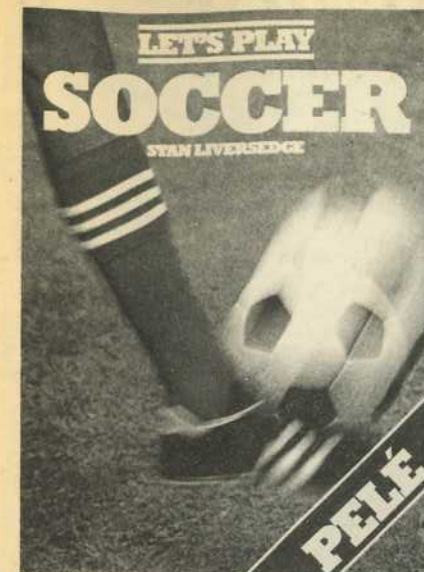
Bruce Tulloh was one of Britain's finest athletes of the late 1950s and early 1960s. He set a record of 65 days for the world's longest jogging course, the 4,800 kilometres from Los Angeles to New York in 1969.

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RASKOPOULOS MISSES OUT ON YOUTH SQUAD

By PETER CONNELL



Peter Raskopoulos has only himself to blame for missing out on selection for the Australian Youth squad picked by Rudi Gutendorf to prepare for the World Youth championships next year.

Raskopoulos missed the Coca-Cola Bottlers national Under 19 championships in Canberra from May 12-16, and obviously he has been heavily penalised for not attending.

This is not the first time in living memory that Marconi players have suffered through not heeding national calls when they came.

It is inconceivable that Australia should face the might of the world next year without one of its outstanding young players.

No doubt he is being sacrificed to prove some point, and it is to be hoped that some formula can be found later for adding him to the Australian Youth squad.

But why did he not go to Canberra? We are told that the decision not to go to the national youth championships was one he took freely, and that he was not influenced in his choice.

This may be so, but there must be considerable misgivings about accepting that assurance.

Raskopoulos missed the second round of qualifying matches in the last World Cup, preferred to stay at home and continue his studies rather than to go to South America.

That was understandable, but he has declined several invitations to play for and train with national, State and other representative sides since then, and one must wonder who is advising him to risk his international future - and for what purpose?

If he has made up his mind to pursue a course of study to fit himself for a career outside Soccer and remain content with the game at club level - until he has qualified, then he and his advisors should make a clear and unequivocal statement to that effect.

Then the national selector - for there is only one effectively - can get on with his job knowing that Raskopoulos is not available.

The player would then have to take his chances of being considered good enough for the national team at senior level when his mission outside Soccer is accomplished.

As it is, he is earning the dislike and disrespect of everybody at national administration level for what appears to be churlish behaviour.

He was asked to attend the championships in Canberra as a member of the NSW side, and would have been allowed to go back to Sydney on the Wednesday to play for his club, Marconi, in a rearranged midweek Philips League match with Heidelberg United.

So, there was no conflict of loyalties. If he is good enough - and he is - then he should be in.

The national interest must come first when the choice is between country and club.

Australia needs the best possible squad to uphold national prestige in the world youth championships next year.

Another surprise omission is Paul Tombides of Western Australia.

Tombides was a member of Australia's last World Youth Cup squad, and has not gone back in ability since then.

The 1978-79 youth squad was well

above average, and but for the genius of Julio Cesar Romero who destroyed Australia single-handed in the qualifying rounds in Acusuncion, might have gone to the World Cup Finals in Japan.

Romero has recently been voted the second-best player of any age in South America - behind only the legendary Diego Maradona - so we know the quality Australian youth will be opposed to in these Coca-Cola sponsored World Championships.

It is difficult to conceive that the present Australian squad is better at this stage than the previous one.

Gutendorf's diligence and experience may yet make them better, but at present they are not.

How then, could Paul Tombides be omitted?

Playing in the third-ranking team in the national youth championships - Western Australia - Tombides was top-scorer with seven goals.

Perhaps it is thought that he lacks something in ball-skill or play-making? Surely those are not the requirements for a central striker?

The only function of a central striker is to score goals.

Tombides has the ability to do that consistently.

Was Gerd Muller an exceptionally gifted ball-player? Was Just Fontaine, or Jimmy Greaves or Geoff Hurst?

Pele, of course was, and was still a phenomenal goalscorer.

But how many Peles do we see in a lifetime?

The question must be - can any of the strikers chosen in preference to Tombides score goals as often and as effectively as

he can?

And what of Howard Tredinnick of Newcastle United?

He is the younger brother of Peter Tredinnick, whose continued omission from the national 'A' squad is as suprising as Howard's is from the youth squad.

Howard Tredinnick was, along with Oscar Crino of Victoria, outstanding for the Australian Schoolboys against NSW Youth in the curtain-raiser to the Australia vs New York Cosmos match last October.

And according to several reports - in fact all reports we have received - Tredinnick was one of the stars of the Coca-Cola Bottlers Under 19 championships in Canberra.

Perhaps Cornish names aren't fashionable!

The selection of the older players in the squad cannot be challenged.

Vlatko Belic (Footscray), Steve Blair (South Melbourne) and Crino, Paul Kay (St George), Ian Hunter (Blacktown), the team captain, Denis Mitchel (Adelaide City) and Rob Wheatley (Kur-Ring-Gai) were near-certainties before the selection process in Canberra started.

But how Tombides and Tredinnick escaped the trawl escapes me, too.



PAUL TOMBIDES (right) bursts through to score

For the rest, it is encouraging and disquieting to find a number of 16-year-olds in the squad.

There is particular personal satisfaction for me in the selection of David Watt of Leichhardt and Jimmy Patikas of Sydney City. Both of them played for the Australian Under-16s in the Young Lions tournament in Singapore last November-December.

Tony Veneri, the Marconi goalkeeper, and Brett Woods, Sydney City's promising young fullback, were also members of the Australian Under-16s in Singapore, and are on the standby list for the national youth squad, along with Tombides.

But it distresses me to think that we do not have enough players of the required ability who will be near the age limit of 20 on August 1 next year to pit against the cream of the world's youth.

These tournaments produce players like Maradona, Romero and Ramon Diaz, top scorer in Japan last year and another who figured in the poll to select the best players in South America irrespective of age.

One young player of great ability and



JIMMY PATIKAS - winner in the final

maturity who will be in Australia - as England's captain - will be Paul Allen of West Ham.

Australians had a chance to see his performance in the FA Cup Final.

In that match Allen effectively curbed the genius of Liam Brady, who is by any reckoning one of the five best players in Europe.

Is it conceivable that Watt, Patikas, Woods and Veneri will have advanced enough in 16 months to match skills and know-how with Allen?

Please note it is not their Soccer ability or potential that is in question. They have tonnes of those.

But can they match the best from Europe and South America in maturity?

We shall, as they say in the glass ball, see.

LES SHORROCK writes:

In a thrilling final, the strong New South Wales team beat South Australia 3-2, and the outcome was in doubt until four minutes from time.

A rare moment of indecision in the NSW defence let in Jim Panos who tucked the ball away neatly for South Australia to take the lead after only 15 minutes.

It took NSW another 18 minutes to get on terms, and then it was the diminutive Paul Kay who did the trick, with a very well-taken goal.

Half-time came with the score still 1-1 and the sides locked in a very even contest.

The second half continued in the same vein, until Kay broke the deadlock with a superb individual effort.



IAN HUNTER - Youth Squad captain-elect

Picking the ball up deep in his own half, he ran at the SA defence, and waltzed through the back four with two superb dummies, to drive the ball past the keeper.

NSW seemed to have the game in their keeping, but Kay, as if to show that he is human, missed an easy chance to notch his hat-trick, firing high over the bar.

But SA wouldn't surrender, and in an all-out attack, defender Dennis Kalinovic fired home a ball that should have been cleared, and promptly disappeared under a heap of red and gold shirts.

So NSW had it all to do again, and to their credit, kept their heads and their attacking verve, with their attack, led by Ian Hunter, always looking dangerous.

Finally, Sydney City's Jim Patikas became the hero, firing home an unstoppable shot with only four minutes left.

It was a worthy finale to a good Youth Championship, played on the superb Bruce Stadium.

The curtain-raiser to the final, the game for third place between Queensland and Western Australia, also provided a great tussle between two very good teams, and was highlighted by a hat-trick by Paul Tombides, who topped the tournament goalscorers with seven.

Queensland were the surprise package of the tournament, beating NSW 1-0 and then drawing 1-1 with Victoria to knock out the holders and finish on top of their section.

And if Queensland were the surprise, Victoria were the disappointment.

Before the tournament it was generally felt that the Victorians looked the most likely winners, and the possibility of a Victoria v NSW final was freely canvassed, but after going down 3-2 in the last minute to NSW in the opening game, Victoria never recovered, and faced with the necessity of beating Queensland to qualify, and eliminate NSW they managed only a 1-1 draw.

Then, suprisingly losing to Northern NSW in the eliminators, the Victorians had to beat Tasmania to avert the ignominy of finishing last.

Despite the setback of having to rearrange the tournament at short notice, when some clubs complained at being deprived of players for their Saturday commitments, the ACT Soccer Federation did a superb job of management, and organised everything superbly.

'UNCLE JOE' STILL HAS MAGYAR MAGIC

A word of congratulations to NSW Under-19 coach, Joe Vlasits.

"Uncle Joe" has rendered tremendous service to Australian Soccer in the years since he came here to escape oppression in Hungary.

He brought with him a deep knowledge of the wisdom and skill of Hungarian Soccer of the 1950s, when the Magical Magyars reigned supreme - despite West Germany's World Cup win by sheer physical power in Switzerland in 1954.

Vlasits was outstanding as a club coach in Australia, particularly with Canterbury, where he produced such superb senior players - as Johnny Warren, John 'Horse' Watkiss and Ron Corry.

He had a wonderful run as national

coach, and then went into a period of decline in health which robbed the game of a fine man of great Soccer knowledge and gentle demeanor (who could be tough if the need arose).

Now he is back as NSW Director of coaching and coach of the State Under 19s.

His achievement in getting his squad ready for the national championships must not be under-rated.

NSW won the tournament, but winning matches or even championships at this level is not the most important objective, as Vlasits knows full well.

But he has succeeded as effectively in his main task - producing players for the future - as he did in the secondary one of winning the title.

Seven of his team are in the national squad of 17 and a further two in the stand-by list of six.

That needs no further comment.

But he has one more achievement to his credit.

He, more than any other from the old school of Middle Europe who gave so much to Australian Soccer in the 1950s and 1960s, has learned to live and work with the new order under National Director of Coaching Eric Worthington.

And for that alone, we owe him more than we are likely to be able to repay.



'UNCLE JOE' VLASITS (left) with national coach Rudi Gutendorf



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